

THE  
CHARITY  
ORGANISATION REPORTER  

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VOL. IV.



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# THE Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 121.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 6, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

District Committees are requested to send in their Annual Reports for 1873-4 to the Central Office with as little delay as possible.

The Council will be glad to have any spare copies of its Fifth Annual Report returned to the Central Office.

The Wandsworth and Putney Committee has removed its Office from Love Lane to 'The Plain,' Wandsworth.

The Hon. Sec. of the St. Saviour's, Southwark, Committee will be very grateful to any gentleman who will help him in the office, from 11 to 1 o'clock every morning, during the next few weeks. The assistance would be of great value, and would not require special knowledge or experience. For further information apply to the Secretary, Charity Organisation Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Strand, Adelphi, W.C.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., and subsequently Major-General Blunt (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Sir R. Macdonald Stephenson, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Hamilton Hay Hill, Esq., *Strand*; H. A. Herbert, Esq., *Shoreditch*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; F. Green, Esq., *Battersea*; Rev. C. J. Meade,

T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Capt. G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; G. M. Hicks, Esq., *Additional Member*; total, 24. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., H. Howgrave Graham, Esq., *Secretaries*.

The Secretary reported that Lady Bouchier had sent him particulars of her small Cottage Home for Convalescents at Hampton Court, for the benefit of District Committees. No subscribers' letters were required. He stated that the Lambeth Committee were about to further consider the question of a third office, so that it would be convenient again to postpone the consideration of the recommendation of the Administrative Committee for a guarantee.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the fortnight ending December 26 the receipts had been £213. 9s. for the General Fund, and £92. 15s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £660. 17s. 6d. and £133. 18s. 9d. respectively.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

A grant of £20 was made to Camberwell, for office furniture and books for the Meeting-house Lane Office.

A grant of £80 was made to the Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East Committee, towards its general expenses for the four months ending March 31.

## INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE LABOUR MARKET.

Mr. A. H. Hill said that a large number of persons came before him who had no trade, and were not in any proper sense labourers. There was, at the same time, an almost unlimited demand for youthful labour, consequent, in part, on the operation of the Education and Factory Acts. He believed that ordinary employment was the best industrial education, and held that under present circumstances institutions for bringing children up under artificial conditions need not be multiplied. Boys earned so much in the Shoe-black brigades that it spoiled them for industrial education. No one would pay them as much whilst they were learning a trade. Boys from institutions were not well fitted for the labour market. He looked forward to the institutions becoming more and more mere places for orphan and homeless boys to live at whilst they went out to work. He moved—

That the present principle of educating lads in charitable institutions apart from the immediate requirements of the labour markets, is inexpedient and conducive to pauperism.

Mr. Russell Barrington, though a member of the Committee of the East London Shoe-black Brigade, agreed with much that Mr. Hill had said. Circumstances had changed so much that it was high time that the institutions looked about them. His Committee had come to the conclusion that the usual practice of dividing the shoe-black's earnings into three portions, one for the boy, one for his bank, and one for the brigade, was not a good one, as it put the boy under a great temptation to understate his earnings. They had decided to hire their stations out to the boys. They only intended to



keep boys for three months or so in the brigade, and then to pass them on to other occupations. They were trying to put old men on, on the same terms as boys.

Miss Hill pointed out that the industrial institutions endeavoured to supply moral training, without which boys could not get and would not take places. There was an enormous demand for girls for domestic service. She was not in favour of relieving parents of the responsibility of bringing up their children, but it was a great advantage to raise girls out of the unskilled labour class by qualifying them for situations.

Mr. Seton-Karr said that the subject was a very large one; he hoped that Mr. Hill would not ask the Council to divide on his resolution.

Mr. Hill was willing to withdraw the motion, but hoped that an opportunity would be found for further considering the subject.

The motion was withdrawn and the Council adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the two weeks ending January 2, 1875:—*Donations*: Miss Archer, 2s. 6d.; A. C. Barclay, Esq., M.P., £40; W. Beddoe, Esq., £5. 5s.; B. Biggs, Esq., £2. 2s.; Lady Bouchier, £10; F. Calvert, Esq., £10; 'Cassix,' £5; F. G. Debenham, Esq., £5; Hon. W. Egerton, M.P., £1. 15s.; Lord Egerton of Tatton, £10; The Gunmakers Company, £10; Rev. Dr. Heurtley, £1; H. Jenkyns, Esq., £5; C. S. Knipe, Esq., £2; Mrs. Konarski, £5; G. W. Medley, Esq., £2; Lady H. Melville, £1; C. Mitchell, Esq., £2. 2s.; Edmund Oldfield, Esq., £5; Miss Paley, £5; D. Powell, Esq., Junr., £2. 2s.; J. Riddell, Esq., £2. 2s.; Mrs. Reiss, £30; Mrs. C. Rollings, £5; E. Seligmann, Esq., £21; J. Shephard, Esq., £5; J. Sherwood, Esq., £5. 5s.; C. F. Skirrow, Esq., £1. 1s.; Société Belge de Bienfaisance, £5. 5s.; J. G. Walker, Esq., £2; P. F. Walker, Esq., £1; J. Walter, Esq., M.P., £20; Mrs. Hensleigh Wedgwood, £10; G. F. Wilson, Esq., £5. *Quarterly*: Hon. W. Warren-Veruon, £5.; *Annual*: Capt. Hamilton Aide, £2. 2s.; Rev. J. Antrobus, £1. 1s.; Thos. B. L. Baker, Esq., £2; F. M. Ball, Esq., £2. 2s.; Messrs. Ball, Norris, and Hadley, £5; E. Bayley, Esq., £1; Messrs. Bischoff & Co., £2. 2s.; Rev. G. H. Bosanquet, £10; R. Broughton, Esq., 1873 and 1874, £2. 2s.; Sir T. Gore Browne, £5; Lord Fred. Cavendish, M.P., £2; L. T. Cave, Esq., £1. 1s.; Sir J. W. Colville, £5; Earl of Darnley, £3; James Drew, Esq., £2. 2; G. T. Duncombe, Esq., £3. 3s.; S. Edwards, Esq., £1. 1s.; H. M. Farquhar, Esq., £5; C. G. M. Gaskell, Esq., £3. 3s.; Sir R. G. Glyn, Bart., £1. 1s.; Mrs. W. Grey, £1. 1s.; Elizabeth, Countess of Harrington, £2; Sir W. Heathcote, £2. 2s.; J. D. Hay-Hill, Esq., £3. 3s.; W. H. James, Esq., M.P., £1. 1s.; G. B. Kent, Esq., £5; Rev. H. E. Knatchbull, £1. 1s.; Lieut.-Col. Fred. Knyvett, £2. 2s.; H. Longley, Esq., £1; Mrs. Lumley, £1.; Capt. F. A. Maxse, R.N., £1. 1s.; W. Morrison, Esq., £1.; John Noble, Esq., £5; Lady H. J. Pelham, £1; Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Petavel, £1. 1s.; H. Rogers, Esq., £5. 5s.; Rt. Hon. Sir E. Ryan, £2. 2s.; Miss E. A. Shirreff, £1. 1s.; P. L. Selater, Esq., £1. 1s.; J. Dunn Smith, Esq., £1. 1s.; Dudley R. Smith, Esq., £2. 2s.; James B. Stanhope, Esq., £10; W. S. Stanhope, Esq., M.P., £2. 2s.; T. Taplin, Esq., £5. 5s.; F. Du Pre Thornton, Esq., £5. 5s.; R. Valpy, Esq., £2. 2s.; Henry Vaughan, Esq., £10; A. Young, Esq., £2; A. G. Watson, Esq., £5; The Duke of Westminster, £50; W. E. Welby, Esq., M.P., £2; J. H. Wright, Esq., £1. 1s. *D.C. Aid Fund*: Mrs. Charles Buxton, £20; Sydney C. Buxton, Esq., £5; E. Charlesworth, Esq., £5. 5s.; Miss Dashwood, £10. 10s.; Mrs. Innes, £2; Lord Overstone, £50; Lady Smith, £5; E. Waterhouse, Esq., £10.

#### COMING MEETING.

WANDSWORTH AND PUTNEY.—The Annual Meeting of the Wandsworth and Putney Charity Organisation Committee will be held at the Spread Eagle Assembly Rooms, Wandsworth, on Thursday, the 14th inst., at 8 p.m. Sir H. W. Peek, Bart., M.P., in the chair.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Hampstead, Bethnal Green, and Lewisham Charity Organisation Committees.

Report of the Council of the Hospital Sunday Fund, 1874.

Seventh Annual Report of the Edinburgh Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

First Report of the Helensburgh Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

MANCHESTER PROVIDENT DISPENSARY ASSOCIATION.—The Honorary Secretary of this Association writes:—'We are getting our Provident Dispensaries gradually to work. We open another on the 5th January, and a third about ten days after. We have fixed upon seven to begin with. It will take time to educate the people, but as to our ultimate success, I have not the slightest doubt.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

RETURN OF CASES DE- CIDED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE TWO WEEKS ENDING SAT., JAN. 2, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by					Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total					
Kensington .....	6	6	9	21	3	1	1	5	5	1	2	1	9	35	9	3	7
Fulham .....	1	4	1	6	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	8	3	6	14
Paddington .....	4	5	1	10	..	5	..	5	5	..	3	2	10	25	26	9	..
Chelsea .....	7	1	1	9	..	8	3	11	2	..	..	1	3	23	12	6	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	34	15	19	..
Westminster do.	2	2	8	12	..	..	8	8	6	1	..	..	7		5	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	3	3	1	3	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	12	15
St. Marylebone .....	1	6	4	11	..	13	4	17	7	3	1	2	13	41	14	9	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	5	..	..	4	1
South St. Pancras ....	2	2	1	5	1	2	3	6	..	1	..	..	1	12	1	6	2
Islington .....	3	..	2	5	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	1	1
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	3	..	..	..
Strand .....	..	2	2	4	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	2	3	9	14	21	5
Holborn .....	..	..	4	4	..	2	3	5	3	2	..	..	5	14	4	25	1
City .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	39	..
Shoreditch .....	..	1	3	4	..	..	2	2	1	..	8	9	15	2	4	..	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	2	4	3	1	1	5	7	2	1	10	19	2	2	..	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	2	1	5	8	..	1	2	3	..	1	..	1	2	13	..	..	2
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	1	..	12	13	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	2	16	6	6	..
Poplar .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	7	9	..	4	1	5	2	..	..	2	2	16	3	2	2
Newington .....	1	..	3	4	1	..	1	2	3	..	..	3	9	5	2	1	..
St. Olave's .....	..	..	2	2	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	5	2	6	1	..
Lambeth:—North ..	1	4	4	9	1	4	1	6	3	..	..	3	..	24	1	4	..
Lambeth:—South ..	..	1	1	2	1	1	..	2	1	1	..	2	..		2	2	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	5	..	..	10	..
Battersea .....	..	5	7	12	..	..	..	..	7	2	..	9	21	..	..	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	7	2	..	9	10	1	1	17	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	1	9	10	5	3	..	8	8	..	..	8	36	..	1	..	..
Peckham .....	1	..	6	7	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	2		..	1	..	..
Greenwich .....	1	..	6	7	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	6	13	1	..	20	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	8	..
Woolwich .....	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	..	2	23	..
Lewisham .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	9	1	1	11	13	8	2	18	..
*Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sydenham .....	2	2	..	4	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	5	9	2	3	6	..
Totals .....	42	49	110	201	17	55	33	105	96	24	8	21	149	455	141	202	154

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

KENSINGTON.—At the Hammersmith Police Court, on the 24th ult., *John Dougherty*, who was described as a labourer, was charged with begging in Silver Street, Notting Hill. George Brown, the inquiry officer of this committee, said the prisoner had his hand tied up in a sling. He came up to witness and begged. He said he had a wife and family and that he was destitute as he could not work through a piece of wood falling upon his finger and breaking it. Witness examined his hand, but there was nothing the matter with it. He found 2s. 6½d. in bronze upon him, some silver, and four half-sovereigns, the latter being sewn up inside his waistcoat. The prisoner said his wife was in Ireland, and she sent him £1 to get a few things, as she was coming over to him. He went to work and saved another £1, but he would not touch it as he wanted to buy a few things for his wife. Not having enough to keep him over Christmas, he asked for assistance. Mr. Ingham wished to know the cost of keeping a man in prison for a week. The gaoler said 4s. 6d., but there were three classes of diet. Mr. Ingham said the prisoner should be kept well in prison during the Christmas holidays. He ordered him to be imprisoned for fourteen days, and 12s. of the money found upon him to be applied for his keep. He ordered the remainder to be given up to him on his leaving prison.

WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho).—*Conference*.—The clergy and others interested in the relief of the poor in this District were invited by the Committee to a Conference, which was held in the St. James's Vestry Hall, on the 22nd inst.

Sir William Fraser, having been called to the Chair, stated that the object of the Conference was to find some simple system of intercommunication between the various relief agencies.

Sir Charles Trevelyan said that this had been attained in five of the ecclesiastical districts in St. George's, Hanover Square, by the establishment of Parochial Councils.



The Rev. W. H. Fremantle, having been asked to describe the system at work in St. Mary's, Bryauston Square, said that making District Visitors the medium of distributing charitable funds vitiated the relation between them and the poor. A small Relief Committee had therefore been formed, and the poor knew that they could apply to it for assistance. If the applicant's circumstances were not known, the application was at once sent both to the Organisation Committee and the District Visitor. The applicant then came before the Relief Committee, which endeavoured to go to the root of his distress. For the able bodied they tried to find work, and sometimes gave them a loan, using the machinery of the Organisation Committee. The sick they assisted liberally if charitable assistance was really necessary. The aged they provided for in concert with the Guardians.

Colonel Lyon Fremantle said that in St. George's they had endeavoured to get the representatives of all denominations together; but the Church of England organisation predominated so much that the meetings consisted mainly of them, though the other denominations were quite willing to give information. Representatives of charitable agencies, Guardians, and Relieving Officers had met and compared notes from their different points of view. He was satisfied, and he spoke from much experience, that the more the whole truth was brought out the better it was for the deserving poor.

The Rev. J. E. Kempe expressed his willingness to give information to the Committee, but did not see any necessity for periodical meetings. The great want of that part of London was personal assistance. There were few residents there who had any leisure. He would willingly confer further with the Committee with a view to co-operation.

The Hon. and Rev. Dr. Talbot (Roman Catholic) and Canon Nugent Wade endorsed Mr. Kempe's statement—Canon Wade adding that there were no charities worth speaking of in his district.

Mr. James Gill, speaking as a visitor of the Strangers' Friend Society, said that the Organisation Committee had been of use to him, both by investigating cases and by taking up cases which did not come within the rules of his Society, which assisted the sick only.

Mr. Longley urged the importance of free exchange of information. He did not think that any one could say that he knew all about a case. The Guardians should be asked to furnish information about those who applied to them, as they did in Marylebone.

Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet understood the objects aimed at to be the prevention of overlapping, and the rendering of charitable relief more effectual. The first thing was to persuade the charities and the public to use the District Committee; then members of the Committee should acquaint themselves with the working of such agencies as did not send representatives to the meetings of the Committee; and then further action might be taken according to the requirements of the different parts of the District. In order to make relief effectual it should be given by a small Committee after inquiry rather than by individual visitors. The St. George's Charity Councils had promoted this kind of reform.

Mr. Kempe pointed out that there was a distinction between relief and kindly gifts to the poor.

Sir William Fraser thought that the Committee had only to pursue the course it had already entered on. It gave the public every opportunity of obtaining information, and he called on all interested in the real welfare of the poor to stand by it and support it.

BATTERSEA.—This Committee has received a grant of £30 from the Wandsworth Police Court.

#### ANNUAL MEETINGS.

EDINBURGH.—The Edinburgh Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor held its annual meeting on December 14. In the absence of the Earl of Haddington, who was to have presided, Bailie Muirhead was called to the chair.

The Chairman claimed for the Society that it was the catholic charity of Edinburgh, and that it was ready to give help in all cases where help was really required. He noticed the aid which the Association had rendered to the School Board. For a Board to have power to compel starving children to attend school, which the School Board had, but to have no power of feeding and clothing these children, was quite an anomaly, and the best part of the Education Act, the compulsory clause, would have remained a dead letter in Edinburgh but for the help rendered to the School Board by the Association coming forward and undertaking to feed and clothe those poor children. (Applause.)

Dr. A. Wood, in submitting the annual report, mentioned that it had been found expedient to start a sick and funeral fund, to which members of the poorer classes contributed every week, so that they were thus placed in the position of being enabled to derive assistance when in sickness or distress, not from charity, but from their own savings.

Mr. Trayner thought the Society should not forget, while they were doing so much to put down deception and to encourage industry, that something should be done if possible for the amusement of the lower classes.

Sir George Warrender expressed concurrence in what had been said by Mr. Trayner.

It was resolved, on the Rev. Dr. Sandford's motion, seconded by Mr. Ivory, 'that the improved condition of the lower classes of Edinburgh, in a sanitary point of view, as evidenced by the diminished death-rate, is matter of congratulation; that this is largely due to the exertions of the Health Committee of the Town Council, the Police, the Parochial Inspectors, and other authorities, co-operating with this Association and other benevolent institutions, to all of whom this meeting tenders its thanks, and in an especial manner to Dr. Littlejohn, the Officer of Health.'

In speaking to this resolution, Dr. Sandford said he thought the clergy might do much more than they did to promote improvement in the sanitary condition of the people, by impressing upon them, from the pulpit and otherwise, that the laws of health were the laws of God.

LIVERPOOL.—The annual general meeting of the Liverpool Central Relief Society was held on December 21, the Mayor, Lieut.-Col. Steble, presiding.

The report having been read and adopted, Mr. W. Rathbone, M.P., moved, 'That the following be substituted for the preamble to the rules of the Society:—"That the Society be called the Liverpool Central Relief and Charity Organisation Society. That the object of the Society be the improvement of the condition of the poor (1) by raising funds and dispensing relief to distressed and deserving poor, in co-operation with the Poor-law Guardians and charities of the town, (2) by securing due investigation and fitting action in all cases, and (3) by repressing mendicity." He said that his resolution was, in his opinion, necessary in order to make the present title and rules of the Society conform with the work which it was actually doing. Anyone looking at the relative proportion between the amount expended in relief and the expenses of the Society's staff would be apt to consider that the latter was altogether disproportionate to the work which was being done, yet there was never a time when the work done by the Society was more valuable or more in proportion to its cost than the work which it was doing at that moment. Never, he ventured to say, had subscribers to the Central Relief Society had more distinctly value for their money than now. So far from the Society merely collecting funds and distributing relief, it was a most valuable agent in preventing poverty, pauperism, and deception. It was still, as it was at the commencement, a Society for collecting funds and distributing relief when required, and should, unfortunately, the present prosperous state of the working classes, which had existed during the past few years, pass away, the staff and organisation was there which would enable them to distribute relief again upon a large scale. The Society, however, was also a most valuable means for inducing co-operation between the charities and the Poor-law authorities, and between the charities and other societies of the town, taking up people before they became paupers and preventing them ever becoming paupers. Anyone who on a board of guardians or a select vestry had ever taken any part in the administration of outdoor relief knew perfectly well that when a single member of a family from temporary distress became a recipient of outdoor relief, there was ever after the greatest danger of the whole family being tempted to become paupers whenever they had a difficulty to encounter. The Central Relief Society, however, took such cases before they came upon the books of the parish, gave temporary relief, and prevented them from becoming inoculated with the virus of pauperism and it was able at once to recommend suitable cases to the charities of the town. (Hear, hear.) The Society had also consented to assist the Ladies' Charity, and its action in this respect would be a most valuable means of securing the independence of the poor by preventing improper cases being dealt with by that charity. Then the Society for Nursing the Sick Poor in their own Homes had for years received most valuable assistance from this charity. In times like the present probably the principal part of the work of the charity was preventing the benevolent being imposed upon, and the sources of charity, being thus dried up or perverted into sources of mischief. This was the work which the Central Relief Society had been and was now doing, and its expenditure would be well repaid if it did nothing else. He ventured to move that the name and rules of the Society should be brought into harmony with this, and he moved the change of the rules of which he had given notice, for he ventured to think that it was not too much to hope that by pursuing such a course the Society might really organise the charities of this town into one connected and efficient system. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Smith, and agreed to.

GLASGOW.—The first annual meeting of the Glasgow Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity was held on the 22nd ult., the Earl of Glasgow presiding. Mr. John S. Robertson, hon. secretary, read the report, which, after describing the objects of the association, and narrating several cases which had been investigated, went on to say that in the course of the Council's inquiries, several societies, professing to carry on Christian work in the east end of the city, had come under their notice. These societies were supported by public subscriptions, which were collected by the promoters, and they generally managed the entire financial arrangements themselves. The Council regretted to say that the careful inquiries that had been made regarding them showed too plainly that they were not conducted in a manner becoming Christian societies. The Council



were most unwilling to injure in the slightest degree any society doing a really benevolent work; but they felt that they would be neglecting the trust committed to them were they not plainly to expose those which were manifestly carried on in an unsatisfactory and irregular manner, to use no stronger terms. A list of these societies was kept at the office of this Association, and might be referred to by anyone who desired information.

Sir James Watson, in moving the adoption of the report, urged that the organisation should be of as extensive a nature as possible, for a small Society of that kind would be productive of very little good unless it was generally taken up by the public. It was indispensable that the Association should be in full accord with the various charitable institutions in the city, as he had no doubt it was. Their work was a good one, and if carried out as it had been by the Association in London, it would be productive of great good. (Applause.)

Mr. Holms, M.P., seconded the motion. The work already accomplished by the Association had been of a very satisfactory character. It was a vast undertaking on the part of the Council. They had to gauge the depths of human misery and suffering in the city; they had to analyse the various causes brought under their notice; they had to examine all causes of imposition, and they had to find aid for the deserving poor. In the city of Glasgow they had an immense amount of degradation and poverty, but side by side with it they had an immense amount of wealth; and when the public of Glasgow were perfectly satisfied that what they gave for the deserving poor would be applied for that purpose, they were liberal with their wealth.

Professor Gairdner said that if the sums given to all the various charities in the city were summed up together, the citizens of Glasgow would be astonished at the result, and be apt to say, 'Surely there can be no want or destitution in a place where liberal hearts and open hands are to be found in such numbers.' But in presence of that extraordinary fact, there was also another fact, that there was an almost unfathomable depth of unrelieved destitution, which made it appear as if the efforts made to relieve distress by the dispensing of charity was so much money thrown into the sea. To have charity properly dispensed, there must be a check upon it, and this Association would supply that want.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of December 1874 was 36,609, and 60,748 received out-door relief, making a total of 97,357. This is an increase of 800 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1873, 1872, and 1871, this was a decrease of 9,522, 13,378, and 27,120 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 429. This is a decrease of 13 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 201 on the corresponding day of last year.

**QUESTIONABLE CHARITIES IN GLASGOW.**—We learn from the *Glasgow Herald* of the 28th December, that the Glasgow Charity Organisation Association has had to call attention to the manner in which two local societies are managed. The societies in question are known as the King Street Christian and Temperance Mission and the Glasgow Christian Mission. Six well-known Glasgow clergymen, who have hitherto allowed their names to appear as patrons of the former society, 'asked an eminent firm of accountants in the city to request the collector and missionary, Mr. Andrew McNeil, to send in the reports and accounts of the last four years for professional audit,' but have been met by a reply, after a month had elapsed, that the Committee could hold no further communication with the accountants on account of a member of the firm having possessed himself in some way, for two hours, of the collecting books. 'The Committee,' says the *Herald*, 'consisted originally of eleven, then of eight, and last year of seven "working men," two of whom seem last year and this year to have been the only auditors of the accounts.' In the case of the 'Christian Mission,' five of the principal firms in the city, who had apparently been subscribers for years to its funds, addressed a joint letter to the superintendent asking a number of questions. The superintendent at once put the matter into the hands of a solicitor. 'He answered scarcely a single one of the questions—he challenged the right of any small body of subscribers to question him at all—he told them that he had spent some hundreds of pounds of his own money in the Mission, and he finally appealed to Mr. William Smeal, the treasurer, who knew all about the Mission. The eminent subscribers—among whom is the legal firm of which the Dean of Faculty is senior partner—prudently wrote to Mr. Smeal, who replied that he had been treasurer, but knew nothing of the matter for the last two or three years. Mr. Crawford's solicitor answered practically that Mr. Smeal was an old gentleman whose memory was failing, that a considerable portion of the money subscribed has been used every year to clear off a debt due to Mr. Smeal himself, and that only two years ago (!) Mr. Smeal had given information about the Mission to somebody who asked.' The *Herald* is of opinion that the communications which it has printed leave the societies under a cloud, and 'will certainly induce every sensible person under whose notice they happen to be brought to withhold further subscriptions till an explanation, of which there is at present no particular sign, shall be forthcoming.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.  
 FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.  
 PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
 CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.  
 ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
 WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anne's)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
 ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
 HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
 NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
 SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
 ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Park Street, N  
 HACKNEY UNION—Old Town Hall, E.  
 ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
 STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
 HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
 CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.  
 SHOREDITCH—56 St. John's Road, Hoxton, N.  
 BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
 WHITECHAPEL UNION and ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—194 Commercial Road, E.  
 STEPNEY UNION and MILE-END OLD TOWN—45 Portland Street, E.  
 POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.  
 ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK—15 Montague Street, S.E.  
 NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.  
 ST. OLAVE'S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.  
 LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner's Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.  
 WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.  
 BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.  
 CLAPHAM—3 Polygon, S.W.  
 CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
 GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.  
 DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.  
 WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter's Hill Road, S.E.  
 LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
 ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.  
 SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council.

**A STRONG CASE for HALF-BINDING the NUMBERS** of the *Reporter* for 1873 has been prepared by Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co., New-street Square, Farringdon Street, E.C.; and can be obtained from them through all newsagents, price 1s. 4d. If the numbers for the year be sent to Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co., they will be bound for 2s. 10d.

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**THE HISTORY AND MODE OF OPERATION OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.** By Charles B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., Secretary of the Council.

Longmans, Green, & Co., Paternoster Row, E.C.; and at the Central Office of the Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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# THE Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 122.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 13, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Title-page and Index to the *Reporter* for 1874 will be issued with the next number.

## NOTICE TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

Two mounted copies of the new edition of the 'List of Charity Organisation and other Societies of which inquiries regarding applicants for charity can be made,' will be sent shortly to the District Committees. It is suggested that the second copy should be offered to the Local Board of Guardians.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., and subsequently Lieut.-General Cavenagh, in the chair; Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Major H. A. Sanford, Major C. C. Fitzroy, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Lady Wilson, Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's Union, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; G. Barker, Esq., J.P., *Lewisham*; Capt. G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., Dr. Hawksley, G. M. Hicks, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 31. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*; R. Burnett, Esq., *Visitor*.

The Secretary stated that a new edition of the 'List of Charity Organisation and other Societies in different parts of

the world, of which inquiries regarding applicants for charity could be made,' had been printed off. It contained the names and addresses of 63 Societies in the United Kingdom, 51 in other parts of Europe, 10 in the United States of America, 4 in British Colonies, 3 in India, and 1 in Egypt.

A letter from Mr. O'Hanlon to Sir Charles Trevelyan was read, stating that the Manchester Provident Dispensary Association had opened a second Dispensary, and that one of the principal free Dispensaries had opened a provident department, and seemed determined to carry the new system vigorously into operation.

An Hon. Secretary called attention to a case in which a prosecution instituted by his Committee had miscarried, though there was no doubt that the prisoner had endeavoured to obtain assistance by means of a forged letter.

It was suggested that it would be well for District Committees to communicate with the Central Office in such cases.

A letter was read from Mr. J. R. Hollond, suggesting that the Society should inform the Committee which was collecting money for the relatives of those lost in the *Cospatrick* of their willingness to inquire into the cases of applicants for relief. Mr. Hollond pointed out that though it would not be difficult to establish the fact of relationship, it might be a nice point to determine whether the relatives surviving were in any true sense dependent on those who had perished.

Mr. Seton-Karr asked if any one could inform him where James Lloyd's Almshouses were. A friend of his had had a letter from a person dating from 'James Lloyd's Almshouses, Belgrave Street,' but a letter so addressed had been returned through the Returned Letter Office, and the Charity Commissioners had been unable to tell him of any such Almshouses.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending January 2 the receipts had been £355. 15s. 6d. for the General Fund, and £25. 10s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,003. 6s. 2d. and £59. 8s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had ordered that a copy of the 'List of Charity Organisation and other Societies' should be sent to the Metropolitan Boards of Guardians through the District Committees.

Mr. Jodrell called attention to the importance of Reports on cases showing that the truth of the applicants' statements had been inquired into, and that the usual communication with the relieving officer and the district visitor had taken place.

After some conversation on this point the Council adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending January 9, 1875:—*Donations*: R. Burnett, Esq., £5; Major-General Clerk, £2. 10s.; Hon. Dudley F. Fortescue, £10; Hon. G. M. Fortescue, £10; W. H. Gladstone, Esq., M.P., £1; Alexander Gray, Esq., £5; J. H., £2; 'A Lady,' £10; H. Pitman, Esq., £2; Mrs. Tilleard, £5; Col. Arthur Trotter, £10; G. V. Yool, Esq., £5. *Annual*: Rev. E. Auriol, £1. 1s.; Rev. E. R. Benyon, £1. 1s.; Mrs. Blood, £1. 1s.; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C.,



£1. 1s.; Mrs. Chas. Buxton, £1; Lord F. C. Cavendish, M.P., £2; A. E. Dangerfield, Esq., £1; Geo. D. W. Digby, Esq., £5; Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., £5; Col. L. Gardiner, £1. 1s.; Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., £5; R. M. Hensley, Esq., £2. 2s.; G. M. Hicks, Esq., £5. 5s.; H. N. Hoare, Esq., £5; A. E. Holmes, Esq., £1. 1s.; Hon. and Rev. W. T. Kenyon, £1. 1s.; Hy. Kimber, Esq., £2. 2s.; H. J. Knyvett, Esq., £1. 1s.; Rev. W. H. Lyall, £1. 1s.; H. Marsh, Esq., £1; Mrs. Moody, £1. 1s.; W. W. Moore, Esq., £2; H. H. Murdoch, Esq., £2. 2s.; Capt. H. R. Porter, £1. 1s.; Rev. R. H. Quick, £2. 2s.; Baroness Meyer de Rothschild, £50; W. Dehague Routh, Esq., 1873 and 1874, £10; A. Sargood, Esq., £1. 1s.; Sir R. Macdonald Stephenson, £2. 2s.; Major T. P. Turbervill, £5; Lieut.-Colonel Walker, £2. 2s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., £1. 1s.; H. M. Cotton, Esq., £3. 3s.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.				
Kensington .....	4	8	19	31	..	..	..	7	1	..	8	27	8	5	6
Fulham .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	4	3	7
Paddington .....	1	4	5	10	..	..	4	5	1	6	12	21	10	5	..
Chelsea .....	3	..	3	6	..	1	1	3	1	..	4	9	4	10	..
St. George's:—															
St. George's Division..	1	2	3	6	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	27	7	9	2
Westminster do. ....	4	2	6	12	..	6	4	3	1	..	5	..	2	..	..
Westminster:—															
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	..	2	2	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	2	5	8
St. Marylebone .....	3	3	7	13	..	17	3	4	..	1	5	38	15	7	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	2	5	8	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	8	3	5	..
South St. Pancras .....	1	4	4	9	2	2	1	..	..	1	1	15	3	6	..
* Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	1	3	4	8	..	..	..	5	..	..	5	9	2	13	..
Strand .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	7	9	1
Holborn .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	4	6	2	8	1
City .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	3	2	..	..	1	5	3	6	..
Shoreditch .....	2	1	2	5	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	8	1	6	..
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	4	5	1	1	1	2	2	..	1	13	..	..	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East ..	3	2	1	6	1	4	2	..	..	2	2	15	2	3	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	4	..	1	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	8	5	5	2
Poplar .....	..	2	2	4	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	4	1	3	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	6	8	..	3	1	1	..	..	1	13	2	3	..
Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lambeth:—															
North .....	5	1	6	12	..	3	4	4	..	..	4	23	3	5	..
South .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	2	1	3	..
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	7
Battersea .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	6	6	4	10
Clapham .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	6	..	..	6	9	..	13	..
Camberwell:—															
Grove Lane .....	..	6	6	12	..	7	..	1	..	..	1	19	2	1	..
Peckham .....	4	..	4	8	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	3	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	3	1	1	2
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	6
Woolwich .....	..	2	2	4	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	..	8	..
Lewisham .....	1	1	1	3	..	2	..	6	..	1	7	12	1	..	8
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..
Sydenham .....	1	2	2	5	..	..	..	4	1	..	5	10	2	2	3
Totals .....	31	38	73	142	9	50	27	67	15	7	8	325	108	136	94

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

## COMING MEETING.

WANDSWORTH AND PUTNEY.—The Annual Meeting of the Wandsworth and Putney Charity Organisation Committee will be held at the Spread Eagle Assembly Rooms, Wandsworth, on Thursday, the 14th inst., at 8 P.M. Sir H. W. Peek, Bart., M.P., will take the chair.

## REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Westminster Union and St. Marylebone Charity Organisation Committees.

Annual Report of the Oxford Charity Organisation Association.

## RETURNS FOR 1874.

The following table shows the number of cases decided by the District Committees in the year 1874:—

DIVISIONS	Class I. Dismissed as				Class II. Referred to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total			
	Not requiring relief	Ineligible	Undeserving	Giving false address	The Poor Law	Local agencies	Private persons	Institutions	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment		Letters for hospitals	Class total	
Kensington .....	132	290	142	9	573	22	49	46	8	125	199	30	77	9	315	1013
Fulham .....	12	15	18	1	46	10	13	6	1	30	68	21	..	6	95	171
Paddington .....	96	113	41	7	257	47	56	72	14	189	217	64	116	57	454	900
Chelsea .....	32	63	36	12	143	43	68	33	10	154	82	39	16	83	220	517
St. George's:																
St. George's Division..	24	138	19	9	190	14	26	14	12	66	192	24	12	18	216	1482
Westminster do. ....	55	211	43	31	340	29	63	221	37	350	196	73	1	20	290	
Westminster—St. James's and St. Anne's .....	11	40	8	..	59	3	1	17	11	32	33	11	..	7	51	142
St. Marylebone .....	99	153	63	10	325	43	279	99	84	505	116	78	8	73	273	1105
Hampstead .....	15	16	9	..	40	6	7	3	1	17	17	16	12	2	47	104
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	18	46	16	1	81	4	3	14	51	72	4	19	10	11	44	197
South St. Pancras .....	108	99	93	11	311	24	127	128	20	299	2	45	1	14	62	672
Islington .....	62	20	20	6	108	7	10	19	3	39	43	9	..	16	68	215
St. Giles's & Bloomsbury Strand .....	5	35	28	5	73	19	1	13	31	64	152	31	12	..	195	332
Holborn .....	73	150	12	..	235	7	34	16	4	61	44	22	..	..	66	362
City .....	2	4	1	..	7	3	..	1	1	5	9	7	..	..	16	28
Shoreditch .....	42	51	31	11	135	28	26	11	2	67	70	43	7	61	181	383
Bethnal Green .....	23	42	33	3	101	24	47	30	12	113	56	29	13	41	139	353
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East ..	96	92	75	7	270	20	40	75	3	138	15	31	17	36	99	507
Stepney Union and Mile End Old Town .....	28	70	6	1	105	10	20	10	7	47	25	21	11	14	71	223
Poplar .....	17	26	18	..	61	2	1	5	1	9	24	9	..	..	33	103
St. Saviour's .....	17	59	23	..	99	..	6	4	1	11	47	8	1	4	60	170
Newington .....	44	79	39	3	165	22	5	36	10	73	92	17	19	9	137	375
St. Olave's .....	6	23	10	1	40	4	18	3	6	31	23	11	..	2	36	107
Lambeth:																
North .....	31	84	28	5	148	26	41	14	7	88	106	16	..	6	128	580
South .....	22	41	11	1	75	7	44	16	11	78	25	22	10	6	63	
Wandsworth and Putney ..	..	32	13	..	51	3	6	2	..	11	47	25	7	1	80	142
Battersea .....	13	110	27	4	154	23	23	12	1	59	174	31	19	16	240	453
Clapham .....	1	29	8	2	40	11	8	12	2	33	63	10	..	4	77	150
Camberwell:																
Grove Lane .....	11	136	6	..	153	23	180	1	16	220	80	43	..	5	128	702
Peckham .....	..	44	..	..	44	15	..	5	..	20	130	1	1	5	137	
Greenwich .....	33	79	15	4	131	15	..	3	3	21	30	142	20	9	201	353
Deptford .....	6	5	6	1	18	..	..	1	..	1	68	10	1	1	80	99
Woolwich .....	3	10	1	..	14	3	..	3	..	6	16	36	3	6	61	81
Lewisham .....	7	6	4	2	19	8	25	8	..	41	85	17	4	14	120	180
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sydenham .....	3	17	6	..	26	19	2	..	..	21	147	15	2	..	16	211
Totals .....	1158	2472	956	152	4738	555	1159	1077	372	3163	2712	1049	401	593	4755	12656

Applications at Offices, by Vagrants and Homeless Persons—6,885.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

KENSINGTON.—*Loan Society*.—The Holland Street Loan Society, which works in connection with this Committee, held its Annual Meeting on Monday. It appeared from the Report that during 1874 £110. 7s. had been lent to 28 persons, making the total amount of loans granted in 1873 and 1874 £329. 7s., and the number of borrowers 96. Of the sum so lent £262. 3s. 6d. had been repaid; £11. 4s. 6d. had been carried to the bad debts account, and £55. 19s. was in course of liquidation. It had been necessary to have recourse to legal proceedings in six cases.

## CHARITY AND PROVIDENCE IN GENEVA.

The monthly journal of the 'Geneva Bureau Central de Bienfaisance,' some account of which will be found in No. 107 of the *Reporter*, gives, in its four last numbers, interesting accounts of the progress made in the organisation of charity both on the Continent and in England. In one number is an abridged translation of the 33 suggestions to District Visitors contained in the 'Handy-book for Visitors of the Poor,' published by the Charity Organisation Society, and in another number an account of the object and mode of operations of the Society, in which much stress is laid upon the vigorous means for the repression of mendicancy and imposture which the law of England places at the disposal of societies and private persons.

Another page speaks of a co-operative savings bank, with a guaranteed capital of £12,000, the sum on deposit being £5,785, and the number of depositors 3,988, making the average amount of each deposit about 25s. The lowest sum received is 20 centimes (less than 2d.), and an interest of 4 per cent. per annum is paid on all deposits of one franc (9½d.) and upwards. The office of the savings bank is under the same roof as the Bureau de Bienfaisance, and its manager is the director of the latter institution.

From an account given of a 'Société Alimentaire,' an article based upon the report of the Charity Organisation Society upon soup kitchens, and other passages in this journal, it appears that public attention in Geneva has been much drawn to the objections to charities the principal object of which is the distribution of cooked food. The 'Société Alimentaire'



appears to have been started with a guaranteed capital, for the establishment of self-supporting dinner-tables for the working classes. The receipts during the month of May were £228, but the undertaking was still burdened with a debt of £148. Allusion is made to the cooking depôts of Glasgow, and the following passage shows the editor's opinion of food charities:— 'What seems more natural or more innocent than giving a portion of food to one who declares he has nothing to eat? "No one will ever make me believe," exclaimed a benevolent lady who was recommended to be prudent in giving this kind of relief, "that a plate of soup ever did anyone any harm!" How many times have we not heard this reply! This form of relief has always been as popular in Geneva as in London and Paris, and were we to find ourselves face to face with a severe winter and a general scarcity of work, people would no doubt be forthcoming who would be ready to promote the opening of one of the so-called "economical" kitchens with which we are already familiar. It is nevertheless certain that food given gratuitously, or at half-price, is, unless under exceptional circumstances, one of the surest means of developing pauperism, since it undermines the providence and self-respect of the recipients. . . . We know something in Geneva of ticket-hunting and ticket-traffic.'

On other pages the various Dwellings Companies of London are mentioned, and reference is made to the 'Société Co-opérative Immobilière Genève', which, with a capital of £10,000, in 1,450 shares, producing an interest of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., has housed some 40 families in its buildings.

Some interesting statements are made in another place with regard to the consumption of brandy in France during the last 40 years. The mean annual amount is stated to have been 1 litre per head in 1831, and 2 litres 54 in 1869. From 1850 to 1860 the mean number of accidental deaths attributable to intoxication has increased in the proportion of 331 to 587, and the number of suicides from 240 to 664. Alcoholic mania has increased to an alarming extent.

In a review of a pamphlet on pauperism and mendicity in various countries, the following passage occurs:— 'In America and in Switzerland beggars are not tolerated in the streets; public feeling rebels against the display of misery. . . . Twenty years since, Switzerland was a prey to a regular tribe of wandering beggars, which was recruited to some extent by outlaws and convicts of all countries. A law scattered these *Heimathlosen* (homeless persons) through the cantons. Each commune took its share, and the frontier police acted energetically. Soon entire families ceased to lead a vagabond existence. They were absorbed into the busy hive of Swiss industry, and at the present time no trace of them is to be found. . . . The mendicant must be rendered a *fixture*; a country and a home must above all be given to him.' In speaking of Italy, described in the review as the 'classic land of the mendicant,' allusion is made to the migratory bands of begging musicians which come from that country, and it is stated that in Paris the police have recently discovered a factory of sham Italian children destined to adopt this mode of life. Amongst other subjects treated of in the 'Bulletin Mensuel,' may be found a 'Société d'Utilité Publique,' with a library of 2,763 volumes; an 'Asile de Nuit' (lodging-house) with a capital of £800, in 200 shares of £4 each, bringing in an annual interest of five per cent.; the 'Société Suisse de Bienfaisance de New York,' of which a detailed account is given; and an agency for the assistance of Swiss governesses abroad.

H. H. G.

**DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.**—We learn from the *Metropolitan* that at the meeting of the Greenwich Board of Guardians, on the 7th inst., the Rev. C. F. S. Money moved, and Mr. Brown seconded, the following resolution, of which the former gentleman had given notice, and which was unanimously carried:— 'That a letter be addressed to the Local Government Board, with a view to obtain reports as to the sanitary condition of the dwellings of the poor, in order to facilitate co-operation by this Board with the District Board of Works in remedying sanitary defects and preventing the spread of disease.'

**MENDICITY AT BRIGHTON.**—Edward Branagan, formerly a private in the 40th Regiment, but for many years a persevering beggar, particularly among officers of the army, was recently brought before the Hove Bench on a charge of begging of Colonel Stringer, 4 Upper Brunswick Place, and Colonel Hansard, 22 Palmeira Square, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour. From the statement of Mr. Brandreth, honorary solicitor to the Brighton Charity Organisation Society, at whose instance the prosecution was undertaken, it appears that Branagan came to Brighton in 1850, and, through the liberal assistance of a few military officers, started as a drilling-master to schools, and was doing well, when he expressed a desire to go out to America. Again his friends assisted him; a sum of between £20 and £30 was raised for his expenses, and he was seen off by train for London. In three weeks he returned, but without the money. He had been robbed of it—at least, so he said. Ever since that time he has got his living by systematically preying on officers. One of the tales on which he relied as a means of exciting compassion was that of being greatly in arrears of rent. This, however, was shown to be false, as to the case on which he was convicted. A copy of the very latest edition of the 'Army List' was found at his lodgings.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of January 1875 was 36,352, and 61,598 received out-door relief, making a total of 97,950. This is an increase of 593 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 7,845, 11,901, and 24,697 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 234. This is a decrease of 195 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 367 on the corresponding day of last year.

**THE ABUSE OF HOSPITALS.**—The *British Medical Journal* publishes the following memorial, which is in course of signature:— 'To the President and Committee of Council of the British Medical Association—We, the undersigned, members of the British Medical Association, and others, beg most respectfully to request the Committee of Council to take into its consideration the relation of the medical profession to the hospitals and free dispensaries throughout the kingdom. Your memorialists are convinced that the manner in which these institutions (with some few exceptions) are at present conducted inflicts a serious injury upon many most deserving members of our profession, while the indiscriminate (or almost indiscriminate) bestowal of gratuitous medical relief upon all applicants lowers the whole scale of our professional remuneration, is far from being a real boon to the working classes themselves, and cannot fail, in the long run, to have a prejudicial influence upon the nation at large. The question to which we venture to draw the attention of the Committee of Council has been much discussed of late years both in the medical press and in the lay periodicals. It is not necessary, therefore, that we should enter into any details respecting it. We may, however, mention that there are three facts which have a very important bearing upon it, and which make the present time particularly opportune for entertaining it. These are: (1) The improvement which is now rapidly taking place in the social and political condition of the industrial classes; (2) the amendments which have lately been made in the administration of parochial medical relief; and (3) the increase within the last few years in the length and expense of medical education. These facts are admitted by all, and their concurrence has led, we believe, to a very general opinion among those who are conversant with the working of the free dispensaries and hospitals that some changes are necessary in order to bring these institutions into harmony with the altered conditions of the present day. As it is desirable that any changes which may be necessary should be duly weighed by a body which fairly represents the medical profession, and should be recommended by high authority, so as to carry along with them the assent of the lay governors of the "Medical Charities," your memorialists pray you to take this important subject into your consideration.' The signatures to this memorial include those of Sir William Jenner, Sir William Gull, Sir William Fergusson, Sir Rutherford Alcock, Mr. Prescott Hewett, Mr. Erichsen, Dr. George Johnson, Dr. Hawksley, Dr. J. W. Ogle, Dr. A. P. Stewart, and many others. Medical men who approve of the memorial, and wish their names to be added to it, are requested to communicate with Dr. Meadows, 27 George Street, Hanover Square, or with Mr. Fairlie Clarke, 12 Mansfield Street, Cavendish Square.

**RELIEF IN CONSTANTINOPLE, AND DISTRESS IN ASIA MINOR.**—A correspondent writes from Constantinople:— 'There are not very many cases here which require assistance, and the funds rather, in my opinion, exceed than fall below what is required. This being a country with a despotic government, when a rascal turns up as vagrant and thief, the British community is apt to get rid of him by the summary method of sending him home, or passing him on to our neighbours, on the principle that it is better to shoot one's rubbish into our neighbour's garden than to keep it in our own. In this way we get rid of the worthless characters. Those cases which are deserving are pretty carefully looked after, and a good deal of the superfluous charity goes to assist poor Greeks, Armenians, and other inhabitants of the country. Of course you know that this is the country *par excellence* of vagrants. Some of them live in style, paying house rent at £40 and £50 a year. The Turks are in the 'religious stage' on the poor question, and seldom withhold their hand from the poor or the afflicted. If I were a very poor man I should turn beggar. The profits of some must, I am sure, be enormous, and the majority, I fancy, earn far more than a day-labourer could. The mosques are the relieving wards, and every believer can obtain a night's shelter in one of them. The great question of relief at the present time is that of the sufferers from the famine in Asia Minor. This famine is caused almost entirely by the stupidity and bad government of the Turks. Last year merchants sent up corn into the district; the government seized it, and ordered it to be sold at a low price. Why were poor people to die that *giaour* merchants should grow rich? Many other merchants had been waiting to see the result of the sale of the first instalment of corn sent into the famine district, in order that—if the price realised had been high—they might have poured in supplies. Of course, when they learnt that the corn had been seized, they sent theirs elsewhere, and the people had neither seed-corn, nor food to eat. It is as pretty an illustration of political economy as I know. There can be no doubt about the facts, because I am not reporting at hearsay, but what has come directly under my own knowledge.'



## CASE OF GOATER.

At the Bow Street Police Court, on the 6th inst., Alphæus M. Gaultier, *alias* Goater, *alias* Hanbury Tracy, was brought up from Lewes by Detective Sergeant Kerley, on a warrant, and charged with unlawfully obtaining 10s. from Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, under false pretences. Mr. George Lewis, jun., instructed by Mr. Ribton-Turner, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Charity Organisation Society.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill said: I am a barrister-at-law, and reside at 1 Long Acre. On the 8th November 1873, the prisoner called and asked if my brother, Rev. Reginald Hay Hill, was in. I told him he was away from town. He said he was very sorry, as he knew him, and wanted particularly to see him. Believing from his manner that he was a friend of my brother, I invited him in. He told me that he was well known to Baron Cleasby and his family, and many other persons whose names I was familiar with. He told me, apparently very reluctantly, that he had got drunk the night previously, and found his pocket cut and his purse gone. He said he was then a master at the Collegiate Institute, Liverpool, under the Rev. G. Butler, whom I knew something of. He said my brother was a very good fellow indeed, though on theological matters they agreed to differ. He then asked me to lend him 10s., and I did so. He promised to call on the following evening (Sunday), his brother-in-law having, he said, promised to see him. I remained in the whole evening, expecting him to call, but I did not see him until the Monday, when he asked me to lend him some more money to take him to Liverpool to keep his engagement. He asked me for 5s., and I declined to lend him any more money. I did not see him again until he was at the Guildhall Police Court. I subsequently had communication with my brother.

The prisoner declined at present to ask the witness any question.

The Rev. C. T. Ackland, head-master of the Kensington Grammar School, said: Towards the close of the year 1873 the prisoner called on me and inquired for the Rev. H. Howlett, who had been one of my assistant-masters. The prisoner called himself Goater, and entered into a general conversation. He then said Mr. Howlett was a friend of his at Cambridge. After some time he said he was sorry Mr. Howlett was not in, as it was of importance to him, but he thought he might open his business to me. He told me he had come up to meet his brother from Nottingham; that his brother had sent a telegram saying that he was called to Paris; that he (prisoner) had gone to Izant's for refreshments, where he supposed he had lost his purse. He asked me to lend him 5s., which I declined to do. He then left. I wrote to Mr. Howlett the same night. He wrote back saying he did not know the name of Goater. I believe the prisoner to be the same man.

Frederick Kerley, detective sergeant, said he received a warrant for the arrest of the prisoner, and he went to the Lewes police-station, where he took the prisoner into custody at 9 o'clock last night. He read the warrant to the prisoner, who asked the date of it. He replied, 6th of January 1875. The prisoner said he did not understand the *alias* of Hanbury Tracy, but supposed it would be explained when he got to London. Prisoner said he knew Mr. Hill, who was a barrister, but that he (prisoner) must have been drunk when he saw him, and he added that drink had been the cause of all his misfortunes. Witness brought him to London this morning.

Mr. Lewis applied for a remand.

In answer to the magistrate, the prisoner said that he was taken into custody on Tuesday, and the warrant was not issued until yesterday. He did not know whether that made any difference.

Sir T. Henry: Not the slightest.

The prisoner thought the statement made by Mr. Lewis in his opening speech, viz. that for fifteen years he had been out of his profession as a tutor, was calculated to damage him in the opinion of the magistrate. The fact was, he only left his last engagement at Midsummer last.

Mr. Lewis remarked that he omitted to mention that the prisoner had been previously convicted, and that his movements for the past fifteen years could be traced.

The prisoner was then remanded till Thursday, the 14th inst.

The following is a description of Gaultier: Age, 38; height, 5 feet 9 in.; complexion, fair; visage, long and thin; hair, dark brown, very slightly streaked with grey, bald patch on crown; whiskers, beard, and moustache, brown; eyes, blue; general appearance, inclined to slimness, regular features, good forehead; dress, shabby, dark great-coat, with velvet collar and breast-pocket, paper collar, small square-pattern mixture trousers, blue necktie. Gaultier is the son of a person who formerly kept a school at Sydenham; he has been a tutor in schools at Hammersmith, Lewes, Brighton, in Cumberland, and other localities. He was convicted, on the 15th of August, 1868, at Ashby-de-la-Zoueh, for obtaining money under false pretences, and sentenced to 14 days' hard labour.

The Organising Secretary will be glad to receive any information with regard to him.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 123.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 20, 1875.

{WITH INDEX AND  
TITLE-PAGE.}

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh, in the chair; Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; Sir R. M. Stephenson, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., *Chelsea*; Lord Wm. Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major H. A. Sanford, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's Union, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; J. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., G. M. Hicks, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 26. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*; A. Scott, Esq., *Visitor*.

The Secretary said that inquiries had been made as to the reason of the Council prosecuting in the case of Goater. He had been directed by the Administrative Committee to state that Goater was believed to have imposed, or to have endeavoured to impose, on persons in at least five of the Society's Districts, and that letters had been received from the country stating that he had imposed on the charitable in a similar way in Suffolk, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Sussex, and other parts of England. It appeared to him that there was no material difference between his case and that of a street mendicant who rendered himself liable to prosecution by making a false statement as to the way in which he came to be in want of money.

### ASSISTANCE BY EMPLOYMENT.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked whether any Committees

displayed lists of persons seeking employment in their office windows, and, if so, with what result.

Several members stated that their Committees put names on a Labour Register,—with some success so far as jobbing labour was concerned.

Mr. McGachen gave notice that he would repeat his question at the next meeting.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending January 9 the receipts had been £190. 19s. for the General Fund, and £4. 4s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,185. 6s. 10d. and £63. 12s. 9d. respectively.

That as there were no motions by individual members on the agenda proper of Council, they recommended in accordance with a resolution of April 27, that the Report of the Committee on the Position of the District Committees, received November 4, 1872, be reviewed in detail by the Council. *See Notice below.*

Also that letters had been submitted to them from Lord Lichfield, Dr. Hawksley, and Mr. Wilkinson with reference to a proposed alteration in the first paragraph of the recent pamphlet on the History and Objects of the Society, and that they had resolved to adopt an alteration suggested by Lord Lichfield.—*See Notice below.*

A letter was read from Dr. Hawksley, stating that an unavoidable engagement prevented his attending the Council, and requesting that the consideration of so much of the Report of the Administrative Committee as related to the pamphlet might be postponed till the following Monday.

After some discussion it was resolved by 13 to 4, that so much of the Report as related to the proposed alteration of the pamphlet should be treated as a recommendation instead of an order, and considered at the next meeting.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending January 16, 1875:—*Donations*: C. W. Bell, Esq., £1; S. Figgis, Esq., 10s.; 'A Friend,' £10; Mrs. Greeuwood, 10s.; Mrs. George Lewis, £4. 4s.; Russell Scott, Esq., £15; Mrs. Ward, 10s., *Annual*: Rev. Canon Argles, £10.; M. Blakiston, Esq., £5; C. E. O., £2. 2s.; Mrs. N. Cohen, £1. 1s.; A. Durward, Esq., £1. 1s.; Capt. Gardner, R.N., £1. 1s.; W. B. Gurdon, Esq., £1; Dr. Hawksley, £2. 2s.; E. Hill, Esq., £1. 1s.; A. C. Humphreys, Esq., £1; Lady Lawley (1874 and 1875), £4; R. B. Litchfield, Esq., £3; S. R. T. Mayor, Esq., £1. 1s.; Mrs. McGrouther, £2. 2s.; F. Montgomerie, Esq., £5; C. R. Moorsom, Esq., £5; Dr. Ross, £2; W. J. Smith, Esq., £1. 1s.; J. Tarratt, Esq., £2. 2s.; A. D. Thomson, Esq., £2. 2s.; Rev. W. P. Trevelyan, £1. 1s.; Sir R. Wilbraham, K.C.B., £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Colonel Angus, £5.

The following business stands for Monday, January 25:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. That the opening paragraph of the pamphlet entitled 'The History and Mode of Operation of the Charity Organisation Society' be altered by the substitution of the words 'a few gentlemen' for the words 'Lord



Lichfield and others,' and by the insertion of the words 'after holding a Conference of representatives of London Charities' after 'less defined object.'

2. That a grant of £50 be made to the St. Saviour's, Southwark, Committee.

3. That a grant of £30 be made to the Bethnal Green Committee.

4. That a grant of £15 be made to the Deptford Committee.

5. That a grant of £29 on account be made to the St. Olave's, Southwark, Committee.

6. That a draft Information Paper, to guide District Committees in referring cases to the Newport Market Refuge, be adopted and issued.

Miss Octavia Hill to call attention to the first recommendation (as to local Charities) of the Committee on the Position of the District Committees, which reported November 2, 1872.—See *Reporter*, Vol. I. p. 162, or Appendix to Fourth Annual Report.

### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JAN. 16, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment					Letters for Hospitals &c.
Kensington .....	4	7	8	19	2	2	4	2	1	7	10	33	8	3	3
Fulham .....	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	4	3	9
Paddington .....	1	1	9	11	1	3	4	3	1	4	9	24	18	1	1
Chelsea .....	1	2	3	6	3	3	6	5	2	1	7	16	5	4	2
St. George's:—															
St. George's Division.	1	1	3	5	1	1	3	3	1	1	3	23	7	11	..
Westminster do.	1	1	1	3	1	4	6	1	1	3	8		1	..	..
Westminster:—															
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	2	2	5	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	2	2	7	8
St. Marylebone .....	3	2	6	11	14	1	15	6	1	1	7	33	13	10	..
Hampstead .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	4	6	2	1	3
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
South St. Pancras .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
Islington .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
Hackney .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury Strand .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
Holborn .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
*City .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	11
Shoreditch .....	2	1	1	4	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	7	1	1	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	3	1	1	5	1	4	8	1	1	1	3	13	1	1	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	3	1	4	8	2	1	3	2	1	3	10	3	1	1	..
Poplar .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	4	6	4	4	12	3	1	4	14	6	7	2	..
Newington .....	2	2	5	9	2	2	4	1	3	5	16	4	4	..	..
St. Olave's .....	1	2	3	6	1	1	3	1	1	3	5	3	3	..	..
Lambeth:—															
North .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
South .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Wandsworth & Putney .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Battersea .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Clapham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Camberwell:—															
Grove Lane .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Peckham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Greenwich .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Deptford .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Woolwich .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Lewisham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Eltham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Sydenham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	..
Totals .....	27	29	66	122	10	34	30	60	20	16	10	302	90	103	110

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of January 1875 was 36,885, and 62,637 received out-door relief, making a total of 99,522. This is an increase of 1572 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 6,008, 10,812, and 23,014 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 424. This is an increase of 190 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 130 on the corresponding day of last year.

### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**FULHAM (AND HAMMERSMITH).**—*Grant from Police Court.*—This Committee has received a grant of £30 from the Hammersmith Police Court.

**WANDSWORTH (AND PUTNEY).**—*Annual Meeting.*—On Thursday evening the third annual meeting of this Committee was held at the Assembly Rooms, Wandsworth. Sir Henry Peek, Bart., M.P., occupied the chair, and was supported by the Hon. Baron Pollock and Messrs. Alan Lambert, Gurney, Haydon, Kimber, Huntingford, Carruthers, and others.

The Chairman said he was glad to think that it was more than ever acknowledged to be the duty of every right-minded man to give a certain amount of his income—of course it would vary in different cases—for the benefit of those of his fellow-creatures who were less fortunate than himself. He thought it was a duty to do so, but he thought it was no less a duty to give with discrimination, for indiscriminate alms-giving was one of the greatest curses one could imagine. In Wandsworth people were so busy that they had not time to sift out cases, and therefore associations composed of intelligent men which would take upon themselves to do so, were of great local advantage, and placed those people who recognised the duty of giving under great obligations. That was the object of the Society which they were come to discuss that evening. The Society which they were discussing was a branch of a Society in London, and it came down to their locality and said, 'If you show confidence in us we will do the best we can in finding out the merits of the different cases, and will tell you which we recommend, and we will also say what cases ought not to be supported.' He had more applications from Wandsworth than from any part of Mid-Surrey, and when he looked round and saw the large amount of money which was given from bequests, and the amounts given by the liberality of the Wandsworth people, he did not know why it should be so. But he had more applications for assistance from there than from any place with which he was politically connected, and he did not think that ought to be. It had struck him sometimes, that the amounts given might be, he would not say wasted, but not made to go so far as they might go. The last sixpence he gave away without inquiry was twenty-five years ago, in the streets of Totnes, in Devonshire. He was there walking along on business, when a woman, who looked a deplorable object, asked him to give her something. He was never very open-handed to beggars, but he turned to a man who was near and asked if he knew the woman, and he replied it was a sad case, so he gave her sixpence and walked up the street to make a call, and shortly after came back to a chemist's, who said to him, 'Do you recognise your sixpence? You gave that woman sixpence'—and he replied that he did, as he was told it was a sad case, but the chemist said there was no more the matter with her than with him, and with the money that was given her she purchased laudanum. That was all the good his sixpence had done, and he resolved that as long as he lived he would never give to a beggar again, and he never had. He would instance another case. One day he received a letter from a lady; it was in the handwriting of a lady, and very well expressed. The applicant stated that she was the wife of a clergyman in extreme distress, but did not know where to go for assistance. He sent the letter to one of the Societies, as he had not time to make inquiries, and promised, if the report was satisfactory, to give £5. The report was satisfactory, and he gave the Society £5. First of all £1 was given, then a second, then a third, and then a fourth. He then got a letter from the lady, saying she was extremely obliged to him for his assistance, but her husband was better and had obtained employment, and she would not trouble him for the other pound. If she had wanted it she knew where to get it, but from that day to this it had never been called for. Those were two cases showing the disadvantage of indiscriminate, and the advantage of discriminate giving. Sir H. Peek then alluded to the old City custom of collecting money for the poor at Christmas time under the name of 'Inquests,' but which, to the great advantage of the City, was now discontinued. The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Alan Lambert, who said that in the few remarks he had to make he should make use of the Report as his text. He wished to say that the Committee recognised with thankfulness the liberal assistance they had received during the last year, so that in no single case which had come before them had they been prevented relieving adequately for want of means. He wished to place great stress upon the word 'adequately,' for when they took up a case which they considered deserving, it was necessary, if they relieved at all, to do it thoroughly. The Committee set their faces against giving out the shilling or the sixpence, for that was not worthy to be called relief, and if they gave in any way it was done effectually, so as to carry the persons through their time of trouble, or start them fairly in the world. A large sum out of the total receipts was for special cases, the first of which was for £23. It was the case of a poor governess, who, in the autumn of 1873, was in great distress. She was completely broken down in health, and had nothing before her but the workhouse. For a time the Committee relieved her, and set to work to find out who had known her in past years, and they realised a sufficient sum to place her in a home, where she died in the spring of last year; but the Committee had the satisfaction of feeling that they had relieved a poor fellow-creature who had experienced a great amount of misery, and had kept her from ending her days in the workhouse. In case No. 310, where £63 had been



raised, he might fairly venture to say it was shown that the work of the Society was recognised and appreciated in the district. The case was one of a professional man, who had fallen into difficulties, and who had a wife and young family to support. The case was a thoroughly hopeless one unless something was done to enable him to recover his position. The Committee sent out fifty circulars and raised £60, armed with which they set to work, and succeeded in getting him passed through the Insolvent Court, and placed him in a position to begin life again, and he was now doing fairly well. He need not enter into the principles which guided them, for they were aware that the primary point with the Committee was that they never admitted relief in any case without it being thoroughly investigated by a paid officer, who had no power to give relief. The case comes before the Committee, and if it is one in which either from improvidence or wrongdoing, the applicant is not deserving of support, he is immediately told he must go to the Poor-law authorities for assistance. In connection with the Society they had a labour register for persons of good character awaiting employment, and he wished it was more extensively used by persons requiring charwomen or gardeners, as they had a number they could recommend. Emigration cases they almost invariably refused to assist, as in the state of the labour market they did not think it wise to encourage people to emigrate. He believed there was a career here for the healthy and industrious, and if they were not strong and industrious, it was unlikely they would do better in a place where they quired self-reliance. They had had some very distressing cases before them, where wives had been deserted by their husbands who had gone to seek for work; but he thought the Committee could not do better than let it be distinctly understood that the families would not be provided for except in the poor-house. Although it might seem hard yet he thought it was the best thing, for many men left their families thinking they would be taken care of in some way. He was glad to be able to state that they were working in perfect harmony with the Poor-law authorities, and received valuable information and assistance from the guardians, and also the relieving officers. On the question of the distribution of endowments he wished to say a few words. He found that in Wandsworth there was a sum of £650 annually received from endowments, and last year £470 was distributed, leaving £165. The balance seemed large, but had he been one of those who had the distribution of it, he should have been tempted to have kept it larger. Some remarks had been made which might have created some little soreness, but not the slightest reflection was intended on those who had the distribution of the fund. He was afraid that much evil was done in Wandsworth by the distribution of so large a sum of money during something like six weeks or two months, and it behoved the inhabitants to say whether, with that large fund, some better means might not be found for distributing it than at present. In September last a man came to the Society, as his doctor had told him it was necessary for him to wear flannel, as he was suffering from rheumatism, and wanted two flannel suits. The Society sent him to the churchwardens, suggesting that they might give him some, but he was sorry to say that their reply was that nothing could be given until Christmas, although they had £160 in hand, which he thought rather hard. He could see no reason why the distribution should be confined to two months, and ten months be allowed to shift for themselves. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he wished to say that the Committee was in great want of working members for Wandsworth, and his co-secretary, who had long been resident in Wandsworth, had been obliged to give up in consequence of leaving the locality. If any persons would come forward and help them the Committee would be glad. From Wandsworth came the most cases, which took up a great deal of time; but it was from Putney that they derived the working members of the Committee.

The Hon. Baron Pollock moved the adoption of the report. He did so with the greater confidence because he had been present at each meeting of the Society, which had taken place in that room, since the chair had been taken by their excellent member and friend, Sir Richard Baggallay, three years ago. What the Committee had promised they had performed. He looked upon the question they dealt with as one of the great questions of the time in which they lived. He was glad that their Chairman had grappled with the subject of promiscuous charity, which was a curse. In Marylebone and elsewhere the giving relief had been reduced to a system which rendered it more easy in a large district now than what it was in a small village a hundred years ago. Baron Pollock alluded to the distribution of endowments, which the Society was established to assist, and concluded by saying the Society was deserving of support, and he was sure would receive it.

Mr. Haydon, in seconding the adoption of the report, said that some few weeks ago he was coming from Waterloo Bridge, and one of his neighbours was in the same compartment with him, and a conversation upon the Society arose; when his neighbour, who was a beerhouse-keeper, said, "I used to receive from persons in the lodging-house on the Plain a large quantity of halfpence, but all at once they ceased," and he went on to say that since the Society had been established he had taken next to nothing, and should be obliged to shut up shop. That proved that the Society had

done good, and he believed it would effect a larger amount of good. He had seen the people go from those lodging-houses about nine o'clock in the morning, and return about four o'clock in the afternoon, when they regaled themselves with what had been given them; but nothing of the kind took place now. If the Society were to be discontinued they would have the parish as bad as it was before the Society was established.

The motion was then put and carried.

Mr. Ribton Turner said that at the present time competition between nations was of the keenest possible character, and they had to cope with France and Germany, who, by their provident habits and education, were taking the commerce which, in former years, England enjoyed. He estimated that two millions of people in England and Wales were in receipt of Poor law relief. The Society was endeavouring to do as much as it could, but it could not advance faster than public opinion would go, and if certain classes would keep mill-stones round their necks the Society could not remove them without the assistance of public opinion. He concluded by moving that the principles of the Society were sound and were deserving of support.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. C. Carruthers, and carried.

### AFFILIATED COUNTRY ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received returns from the following affiliated Associations showing the number of cases they have decided during the quarter ending Saturday, December 26, 1874:—

	Birkenhead	Brighton	Chester	Eton	Glasgow	Horsham	Kingston-on-Thames	Oxford	Reading	Scarboro'	Wimbledon	Winchester
<b>CLASS I.</b>												
Dismissed, or unfavourably reported on, as—												
1. Not requiring relief . . . . .	13	2	3	1	9	2	2	10	7	3	2	1
2. Undeserving . . . . .	23	24	8	1	19	5	..	9	22	13	1	1
3. Cases for Poor-law, or otherwise ineligible . . . . .	5	13	8	2	13	1	3	17	16	5	3	3
	41	37	19	3	41	8	5	36	45	21	6	4
<b>CLASS II.</b>												
Recommended to—												
1. The Guardians . . . . .	25	4	5	2	..	7	2	..	..	2	..	1
2. Institutions or Local Agencies . . . . .	4	1	..	5	6	..	..	4	2	..	..	..
3. Private Persons . . . . .	..	5	6	3	25	..	..	2	3	3	1	..
	29	10	11	10	31	7	2	6	5	5	1	1
<b>CLASS III.</b>												
Assisted by—												
1. Grants . . . . .	66	27	5	18	2	7	3	11	3	25	1	6
2. Loans . . . . .	..	..	20	7	5	3	1	16	1	5	4	..
3. Employment . . . . .	3	..	2	5	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
4. Letters for Hospitals &c. . . . .	..	14	..	1	2	..	1	2	1	..	..	..
	69	41	27	31	11	10	6	29	5	30	6	6
	139	88	57	44	83	25	13	71	56	56	13	11
Reports sent out . . . . .	..	70	..	..	35	2	..	37	12	..	10	..
Vagrants dealt with . . . . .	14	842	18	429	..	19	..	112	29	24	358	..

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its eighth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office. There were present, Lieut.-General Cavenagh, in the chair; Major-General Bainbrigge, Miss Erskine; Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, F. Fuller, A. H. Hill, W. Harris, W. A. B. Hamilton, Edmund C. Johnson, W. R. Kemp, R. Bruce Reid, and W. M. Wilkinson; Mrs. E. C. Johnson and Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, Visitors; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Secretary was instructed to endeavour to obtain a complete Report of the Proceedings at the Congress of Superintendents and Teachers of Institutions of the Blind, held at Vienna in August 1873.

The Committee further considered what was being done in London for the industrial training of blind adults.

**THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.**—At the Conference on Sanitary Reform convened by the Mayor of Birmingham, and held on Thursday last, Sir Sydney Waterlow referred in his Paper to the meetings of the Special Dwellings Committee in 1873, and stated the conclusions arrived at. The public mind, he said, was now fully aroused to the great importance of the question, the Government was prepared to take action, and it was clearly their duty to give the Home Secretary all the external support they could. Mr. Bailie Morrison read a paper on the working of the Improvement Act in Glasgow. Sir James Hogg, speaking at Truro the same evening, made the announcement that the Government meant to legislate during the coming Session in reference to the dwellings of the poor in London and other large towns. He considered that no more important question could be brought before the Legislature of a great country.



**ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN NEW YORK.**—We learn from the *New York Evening Post* that a conference was held on the 28th ult., at the Bible House, to consider certain points in connection with the work of systematising out-door relief in that city, and to point out a mode by which any sentimental or superficial objections to the system of registration inaugurated successfully by the Bureau of Charities last winter might be obviated. The special point enforced by the speakers was that the societies were themselves the parties most interested in this work; and results showed that the representatives of those societies present on the occasion felt the force of this argument, and were prepared zealously to give effect to the plan proposed. Invitations had been sent to all societies engaged in out-door relief, whose beneficiaries exceeded one hundred in number. Mr. Gordon was appointed chairman. Mr. Roosevelt stated briefly the objects of the meeting, and explained the difficulty experienced in obtaining from certain societies the information necessary for the registration of beneficiaries. He said that the public required, if possible, a simple, inexpensive, and effectual method of administering the funds now contributed for out-door relief in the city. Such a system should fulfil, among other things, the following objects:—1. It should exclude the unworthy. 2. It should check mendicancy. 3. It should protect the societies from imposition, and, by enabling their funds to go further, increase their efficiency. 4. It should secure the relief of all distressed persons by referring them to the proper societies. 5. It should check the unnecessary multiplication of fresh relief agencies on ground already covered. 6. It should strengthen the claims of existing societies to the support of the public. 7. It should show any overlapping of the societies in their work. 8. It should ascertain where distress and pauperism really exist. 9. It should point out and apply the remedy promptly. 10. It should give the power of ascertaining the condition, habits, character and resources of any given beneficiary. 11. It should serve as a basis for co-operation between the Commissioners of Charities or other public departments and the voluntary benevolent societies of the city. All these conditions could be fulfilled by the system of registration instituted and successfully worked last winter by the Bureau of Charities. Its simplicity, economy of operation, and effectiveness were demonstrated by facts. But its continuance must depend upon the co-operation of the societies engaged in this form of charitable work. The bureau was only anxious to secure the benefits of the system to the public, and therefore proposed to hand over this part of their work to a representative committee formed out of the societies themselves. No suspicion or jealousy need in this way arise among its members, and the bureau would place the copyright of its Directory of Charities, its materiel, &c., at the disposal of such committee, while any expense would be compensated by the increased confidence of the subscribing public and by the diminution of the claims of unworthy persons on the funds of the societies. The following resolution was thereupon proposed, and, after a full discussion, carried unanimously:—

Whereas the Bureau of Charities has laid before the representatives of certain societies engaged in out-door relief a plan for registering beneficiaries of the different societies which has been inaugurated and worked successfully by it during the last winter; and

Whereas the permanent success of such a plan seems to depend on the effective co-operation of the various societies interested; and

Whereas in this way the worthy could be most effectually assisted without any chance of publicity, and the objects of the subscribing public most completely realised, while the fraudulent would be exposed and prevented from obtaining assistance; and all pretext for street mendicancy would thus be removed;

Resolved, That the representatives of the societies here present pledge themselves to use their influence to form a committee composed of members of the respective societies to carry out this branch of the work in co-operation with the Bureau of Charities.

A committee of five was then appointed to carry out the above resolution, and to report at an early date.

#### CASE OF GOATER.

At the Bow Street Police Court, on the 14th inst., *Alpheus Marcus Gaultier*, alias *Goater*, alias *Hanbury Tracy*, 38, described as a tutor, was charged on remand before Sir Thomas Henry with obtaining, and attempting to obtain, by false pretences, various sums of money from Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, the Rev. C. T. Ackland, the Rev. A. J. Rivington, and others.

Mr. George Lewis, Jun., prosecuted on behalf of the Charity Organisation Society.

The Rev. Reginald Hay Hill, Rector of St. Peter's, Thetford, and brother of Mr. Alsager Hay Hill who was examined last week, said that he did not know the prisoner either under the name of Tracy or Gaultier.

The Rev. Henry Howlett, Curate of Meppershall, Bedfordshire, whose name had been used to the Rev. C. T. Ackland, said he did not know the prisoner.

The Rev. John Alfred Rivington, assistant master at the Cathedral School, Chapter-house, St. Paul's Churchyard, said that on the 10th July last the prisoner called upon him, and gave the name of Gaultier. He stated that he was a friend of the Rev. A. Barff's, of 1 Amen-court, and that he had called on him and failed to find him in. He said he had

obtained a situation as master in Ipswich Grammar School, and was on his way there, but was unfortunately left without money, and he asked witness to advance him some. He said he wanted a sovereign, which witness gave him. He promised to return it the next day. He came the next day in a cab very drunk, and asked for some more money to pay the cab. Witness gave him half-a-crown for the sake of the cabman, but the prisoner absconded with the money, and left the cabman unpaid. He gave the prisoner the money believing him to be a friend of Mr. Barff's.

The Rev. Albert Barff, 1 Amen Court, head master of the Cathedral School, said he had no knowledge whatever of the prisoner, nor had he given him authority to use his name.

Mr. Lewis here applied for another remand, as he wished to bring evidence against the prisoner from Liverpool. It was wished to bring three cases against the prisoner, as it was well known that he had been all over the country defrauding clergymen and others by pretending to be well known to their friends. The prisoner, Mr. Lewis stated, had already been convicted of a similar offence at Canterbury, on the 6th of August, 1860.

Sir T. Henry granted the remand, and allowed the witnesses from the country to be bound over to appear at the trial.

The prisoner was remanded till to-morrow, the 21st inst.

The following is a description of Gaultier: Age, 38; height, 5 feet 10 in.; complexion, fair; visage, long and thin; hair, dark brown, very slightly streaked with grey, bald patch on crown; whiskers, beard, and moustache, brown; eyes, blue; general appearance, inclined to slimness, regular features, good forehead; dress, shabby, dark great-coat, with velvet collar and breast-pocket, paper collar, small square-pattern mixture trousers, blue necktie. Gaultier is the son of a person who formerly kept a school at Sydenham; he has been a tutor in schools at Hammersmith, Lewes, Brighton, in Cumberland, and other localities. He was convicted, on the 15th of August, 1868, at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, for obtaining money under false pretences, and sentenced to 14 days' hard labour.

The Organising Secretary will be glad to receive any information with regard to him.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 124.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Sir R. M. Stephenson, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major H. A. Sanford, W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *St. George's*; Henry Peto, Esq., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Lady Wilson, Miss Collett, C. J. Tarring, Esq., *South St. Pancras*; J. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir R. Wilbraham, K.C.B., *Holborn*; Rev. H. J. Cummins, *City*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Russell H. Barington, Esq., Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., Allen D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's Union, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; George Parker, Esq., J.P., *Lewisham*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 44. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., H. Howgrave Graham, Esq., *Secretaries*; A. C. Mitchell, Esq., Rev. H. Solly, *Visitors*.

A letter was read from the St. Giles' Committee, stating that the Hon. E. F. Kenyon and Mr. R. A. Kinglake would be representatives at the Council, and Mr. J. Bickersteth and Mr. Heneage Wynne Finch would be hon. secretaries.

The Secretary stated that the printer had still about fifteen sets of the *Reporter* for 1873, and that if any Committee or subscriber wished to have these bound up in one volume with the numbers for 1874, it might very appropriately be done, as

the paging was continuous, owing to an oversight at the beginning of 1874.

## ASSISTANCE BY EMPLOYMENT.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked, according to notice, whether any Committees displayed lists of persons seeking employment in their office windows, and with what result?

Mr. Seton-Karr said that the Chelsea Committee had not put any list in their window, but had circulated slips in their District announcing that they were prepared to recommend persons, and had inserted this in their annual report. The applications which they received for charwomen and similar occasional labour were slightly on the increase.

Sir R. Wilbraham said that the Holborn Committee attained a similar end by advertising in a local paper.

The Rev. H. F. Mallet said that his Committee (Hampstead) had a standing advertisement in the local paper, with a similar offer.

Mr. Edgcombe said that the Kensington Committee had never displayed any list. He did not think that would be a convenient course, as the cases were, many of them, peculiar. They had a notice-board announcing their willingness to recommend persons, and when any employer applied, the member of Committee who took charge of the Register tried to find the right person. They had found permanent employment for some, casual employment for many. They had had complaints of some of those they recommended; this was to be expected. It was people who had sunk to the bottom that came to their office, and for whom they tried to get a fresh start. They only recommended people after making inquiry about them.

Sir Macdonald Stephenson handed in a written statement; also printed slips describing the classes of persons on their Labour Register, which were circulated by the Paddington Committee.

Mr. A. H. Hill assumed that the Labour Registers were only intended for persons in distress, who applied at the office on that ground, and for whose distress employment was thought to be the appropriate remedy. An ordinary workman should not be encouraged to come to a Charity Office to seek for work.

Miss Octavia Hill said that the Marylebone Committee preferred using local registries.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending January 2 the receipts had been £86. 12s. for the General Fund, and £15 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,261. 4s. 4d. and £68. 12s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had directed that the four recommendations for grants should have precedence of the recommendation as to the alteration of the pamphlet, on the agenda paper of the Council.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

Grants of £50, £30, and £15 were made to the St.



Saviour's (Southwark), Bethnal Green, and Deptford Committees respectively.

Mr. Russell Barrington urged that a larger grant should be made to the Bethnal Green Committee, but it was pointed out by Mr. Bund and the Rev. H. I. Cummins that it was unwise to increase grants recommended by the Administrative Committee.

On the recommendation that a grant of £20 be made on account to the St. Olave's (Southwark) Committee, Mr. Wightman-Wood moved as an amendment that the grant be increased to £50.

It was pointed out that the proposed grant was only intended as an instalment, the Administrative Committee not having yet had a full financial statement before them, and the original recommendation was adopted, 26 voting for it.

#### HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY.

The Council then considered the recommendation of the Administrative Committee—

That the opening paragraph of the pamphlet entitled 'The History and Mode of Operation of the Charity Organisation Society' be altered by the substitution of the words 'a few gentlemen' for the words 'Lord Lichfield and others,' and by the insertion of the words 'after holding a Conference of Representatives of London Charities' after 'less defined object.'

Sir Charles Trevelyan moved the adoption of the recommendation. It was a testimony to the reputation of the Society that a slight mention of its origin should provoke so much warm feeling. The time for writing the Society's history had not come; its function was to make history, not to write it. Like most English institutions, the Society had grown in a rough-and-ready way. First, there was a general sense of a public want; then there were the first crude and imperfect attempts to provide for it; then by degrees a satisfactory system was worked out by the co-operation of many persons of various experience and turns of mind. Even after he had joined the Society, in the second year of its existence, it was still in an elementary stage, and the final constitution of the Council was settled many months after he joined it. He thought that the paragraph, if altered as proposed, would be correct as far as it went, though it would not tell the whole story.

Mr. Edgcombe would second the motion; he believed that the origin of the Society was as undiscoverable as the sources of the Nile.

Mr. Wightman-Wood said that he had received a printed paper of 'Objections' from Dr. Hawksley, in common, he presumed, with other members of the Council. He pointed out that it was not correct to call the pamphlet 'History and mode of operations of the Society'; only a few lines were devoted to its history, and all the rest of the pamphlet to its mode of operations. He would move as an amendment—

That the words 'History and' be omitted from the title of the pamphlet, and that the first paragraph and foot-note be referred back to the Administrative Committee to be amended in any respect in which they may consider it is inaccurate.

Dr. Hawksley argued that there was no such uncertainty about the origin of the Society as had been stated. It originated in a meeting held on June 22, 1868, at the House of the Society of Arts, over which the present Archbishop of Canterbury, then Bishop of London, presided, and at which Mr. Solly read a paper, entitled 'How to deal with our Roughs and Criminal Classes.' An Association was subsequently formed 'for the prevention of pauperism and crime.' The committee formed in consequence of the meeting divided itself into sections, one of which had for its subject 'The Means now in Operation for the Prevention of Pauperism.' He was

a member of this, and prepared a paper, which was read at another meeting, held at the House of the Society of Arts, under the presidency of Lord Shaftesbury, on December 17, 1868. After this meeting Lord Lichfield expressed his willingness to join the Association, if it would abandon its wider views, but he did not actually join till after two Conferences of representatives of Charities had been held at the House of the Society of Arts on the 11th and 25th February 1869. The title of the Society was not altered till the end of April, but the Association had restricted its action before.

The Secretary admitted that the pamphlet had not much claim to be called a history of the Society. He was often asked for a prospectus of the Society; and as neither the Manual nor the Annual Reports were quite suitable for the purpose, he had offered in the summer to prepare such a paper. He had only given such a general statement of the history of the Society as seemed to him requisite for the purpose of a prospectus, but had introduced 'History' into the title for the sake of distinctiveness. He had been at most of the meetings in 1868-69 to which Dr. Hawksley had referred, and did not dispute any of his facts, but thought that many influences to which he had not alluded had contributed to prepare the way for the Society, and give a direction to its work. He wished to explain, with reference to a statement at p. 11 of Dr. Hawksley's 'Objections,' that General Cavenagh, to whom the Administrative Committee had referred the matter in December, had sent him, with his Opinion, a sketch of the early history of the Society for the information of the Administrative Committee. This was the draft which Dr. Hawksley had seen. Two or three days later General Cavenagh had, at his request, sent him a paragraph for insertion in the pamphlet, based on the present first paragraph, and on an alteration which he (the Secretary) had suggested. This paragraph was adopted, with slight alterations, by the Administrative Committee, but was afterwards set aside for the alteration suggested by Lord Lichfield.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson would move, as a further amendment, that the whole matter be referred back to the Administrative Committee.

The Rev. H. Solly said he had attended, at Dr. Hawksley's request, to give his evidence if it should be wanted. He quite agreed that the Council ought not to give any more of its time to the question under discussion, but perhaps some members might be willing to give time to it; if so, might it not be referred to them?

Mr. A. H. Hill understood that if Mr. Wightman-Wood's amendment was carried, the Administrative Committee would have full discretion to omit all historical matter from what would no longer purport to be a history of the Society.

Mr. Wightman-Wood's amendment was then put and carried, 14 voting for it; and was subsequently agreed to as a substantive motion, the Rev. R. J. Simpson's amendment having been put and lost.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Jan. 23, 1875:—*Donations*: J. H. Law, Esq., £5; H. B. Mildmay, Esq., £25; J. S. Shadwell, Esq., £1; Sir C. C. Smith, £2. 2s. *Annual*: Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., £2. 2s.; W. M. Hale, Esq., £1; J. Lamont, Esq., £1. 1s.; W. H. G. Salter, Esq., £1; U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, Esq., M.P., £5. 5s.; H. Sugg, Esq., £1. 1s.; W. R. Tomkinson, Esq., £5; T. Westcombe, Esq., 10s.; The Bishop of Winchester, £2. 2s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: W. H. G. Salter, Esq., £1; St. George's Charity Organisation Committee, £100.

The following business stands for Monday, February 1:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

'1. That a draft Information Paper, to guide District Committees in referring cases to the Newport Market Refuge, be adopted and issued.'



- '2. That a grant of £20 be made to the Shoreditch Committee.'

'3. That a grant of £15 be made to the Stepney Committee, as an addition to their Permanent Loan Fund.'

Miss Octavia Hill to call attention to the first recommendation (as to local Charities) of the Committee on the Position of the District Committees, which reported November 2, 1872.—See *Reporter*, Vol. i. p. 162; or Appendix to Fourth Annual Report.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JAN. 23, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with		
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise Ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment					Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	5	6	..	11	..	1	4	5	5	..	..	5	21	4	2	1	
Fulham .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	2	2	..	2	9	4	3	5	
Paddington .....	1	1	3	5	..	..	1	1	5	1	2	1	15	5	8	..	
Chelsea .....	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	3	2	..	2	..	8	6	2	..	
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	6	6	..	
Westminster do. ....	..	3	4	7	..	3	4	7	5	..	..	..	24	1	..	..	
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's .....	..	2	4	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	7	2	4	7	
St. Marylebone .....	6	..	8	14	..	10	7	17	3	3	..	2	39	4	2	..	
Hampstead .....	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	2	..	
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	2	1	2	5	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	3	9	..	3	..	
South St. Pancras ....	3	2	1	6	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	7	6	3	..	
*Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury .....	..	2	2	4	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	7	2	9	..	
Strand .....	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	5	3	3	..	
Holborn .....	2	..	2	4	..	1	..	1	2	2	..	4	9	6	7	..	
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	23	..	
Shoreditch .....	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	2	11	..	4	..	
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	5	1	1	..	
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East .....	2	5	3	10	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	2	15	2	4	..	
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	1	1	4	6	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	1	9	7	2	..	
Poplar .....	..	1	1	2	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	2	4	..	5	..	5	..	..	2	2	11	11	2	..	
Newington .....	1	..	3	4	3	..	1	4	2	..	1	1	12	1	..	..	
St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	..	2	..	2	6	1	5	..	
Lambeth:— { North .....	..	3	3	6	1	..	..	1	4	..	..	4	16	..	3	..	
{ South .....	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	2	2	1	2	
Wandsworth & Putney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Battersea .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	7	2	1	..	
Clapham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	1	1	16	
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	3	3	1	2	..	3	3	..	..	3	10	..	..	..	
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	2	..	
Greenwich .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	7	2	..	9	
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	1	9	
Woolwich .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	5	
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	2	4	2	1	21	
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	
Sydenham .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	4	..	..	3	
Totals.....	27	37	64	128	7	33	26	66	55	17	9	16	97	291	84	105	84

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

- Report of the Annual Central Poor-law Conference, held in London, December 15, 1874. Knight & Co., 6d.

Report of the Fourth Annual Poor-law Conference of the South-Western District, held at Sherborne, October 28, 1874. Knight & Co., 6d.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its ninth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office. There were present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair) Dr. Hawksley, Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Messrs. F. J. Campbell, T. Clarke, D. Conolly, W. Harris, A. H. Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, John Smith, J. L. Shadwell, and G. M. Tait; Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, Visitor; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

It was resolved, on Mr. E. C. Johnson's motion.—

'That the special industrial training provided for the adult blind in London is not sufficient for the number who require it.'

DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

MARYLEBONE.—In January 1873, James Duffey, a blind man, was convicted of begging in the streets. Through this conviction he forfeited a pension which he had enjoyed for nearly five years from one of the Charities for the Blind. His case as an object of charity has been for some time before the Marylebone Committee, which, after a very prolonged investigation, could not entertain a very favourable opinion of it. There were circumstances, however, which led the Committee to invite a reconsideration of the case by the Charity alluded to; it did not recommend it, or pass any favourable judgment on its merits, but offered its services to watch it, if on a review the Blind Charity should consider itself justified in renewing its grant of a pension. The Charity has reviewed the case, and has re-granted the pension, but has ordered its payment to be made *through* the Marylebone Committee, giving it plenary authority to grant or withhold at pleasure. Having undertaken this responsibility, the Marylebone Committee would feel obliged to other District Committees if they would give early information of any act of begging coming under their cognizance, which in their judgment would seem to be an infraction of the conditions under which the pension is granted to James Duffey.

ISLINGTON.—A grant of £15 has been made to this Committee by the magistrates of the Clerkenwell Police Court.

GLASGOW CHARITY ORGANISATION ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Glasgow Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity was held in the Mechanics' Institution, Canning Street, Calton, on the 18th inst., to interest the inhabitants of the eastern end of the city in the objects of the Association. Mr. Dunlop, of Tollcross, says the *Glasgow Herald*, occupied the chair, and among the gentlemen present were—Colonel Buchanan, Drumpellier; Mr. J. C. Burns, Rev. Dr. George Jeffrey, Rev. R. J. Simpson (of St. Clement Dances, member of the London Charity Organisation Council), Rev. Dr. Symington, Rev. Mr. Ratray, Rev. Mr. Barras, Bailie Morrison, Councillor Waddell, Mr. J. S. Roberts, and Mr. Kenneth M'Leod.

The Chairman intimated that letters of apology for absence had been received from the Lord Provost, Sir James Watson, Mr. Holms, M.P., Dr. Walter Smith, Rev. James Johnstone, and Mr. F. G. Dougall. He then went on to say that the meeting had been called at the instance of the society formed in Glasgow for the purpose of organising charitable relief and repressing mendicity. It was not intended to restrict charity, but rather to promote it in every way possible, by diverting charity into its proper channels, and repressing imposition on the part of those who applied for charity, and exposing it. During the short time the Association had been in operation, it had exposed a great amount of imposition in the name of charity, and it was with the view of establishing a branch of the Society in the eastern district of the city that this meeting had been convened.

The Rev. Mr. Simpson, London, explained what the association was and what it was not. It was not a society for the abolition of charity, but one for regulating charity. Secondly, it was not a society for relief, but one to direct relief in other quarters. It was not an additional society, but one for the purpose of trying to direct the action of other societies in existence already in a wholesome and right way. He then described the operations of a kindred institution in London, and gave numerous instances showing how people were gulled by impostors. He proceeded to show that help given without inquiry was often wasted, and the money could be put to much better purposes. We learned from lips that could not err that we should, whatever our means might be, 'gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost.' The associators said—'One ought not to give without inquiry: it is part of a Christian's duty to himself, to his country, to his Maker; and it is also his duty to the deserving poor not to throw away the bounty Providence has entrusted him with, but, like a faithful steward, to give it to those who, after due inquiry and thorough investigation, are found worthy of that benevolence.' In that way one put his money to the best interest. In large communities there was always the danger of imposture, and therefore to have a society which should repress mendicity was desirable. The Association gave the best help to deserving poor men. All cases were thoroughly inquired into; and if a man wanted employment, he was put on the Labour Register, and they encouraged giving loans on the most easy terms. So, in the case of the poor man, the deserving, and the struggling, the Association was their best friend in the world, but to the impostor it was the most implacable foe.

The Rev. Dr. George Jeffrey moved the adoption of a resolution approving of the principles of the association. He said such an association was exceedingly needed in the eastern district of Glasgow. There could not be a worse thing for a community than indiscriminate charity. He knew nothing that did such injury to the giver, and to the person upon whom the gift was bestowed, than the indiscriminate charity which prevailed in that part of the city. It often happened that those persons who needed charity most were the least likely to make application for it. The great principle of the Society was inquiry; that being its special and most important feature; and it was therefore worthy of commendation and the



support of the public of Glasgow, to whom he recommended the Association.

Rev. Dr. Symington seconded the resolution. He expressed his conviction that there was great need for the existence of such an association, believing that in many cases the gifts of the benevolent had been squandered. It was their duty to consider the poor man's case, but they must consider it wisely. He did not wish to see charity repressed, but he desired it to be properly administered and applied, and this could only be done after inquiry into cases.

Mr. Thomson, Shawlands, spoke in support of the principles of the Association, and quoted, as an instance of the necessity for the Society, the fact that some of the articles of clothing given to the destitute recently had found their way to the pawnbroker's.

Mr. J. C. Burns followed, and explained why he had been led to take a prominent part in this movement. He alluded to the great interest Mr. Simpson had taken in the matter, and mentioned that the rev. gentleman and himself were going to Crieff with the object of ventilating the subject in rural districts. The aim of the Society was to find out the starving and the destitute, and to expose the impostor. On behalf of the Association whose claims had been pleaded, he asked that the men in the east end of Glasgow would, whoever of them were able, devote a little time in promoting its object, and co-operate in the operations which are being conducted. He was satisfied that in time there would be offices in the four districts of the city.

Bailie Morrison said if the association meant opposition in the smallest extent to the feeling of charity which exists in this large community, he for one would not be on the platform; but its object was to supply a great want, and it was for that reason he supported it. He believed there was no city in the United Kingdom where there was more public spirit amongst the wealthier portion of the community than existed in the city of Glasgow. There was no city, in proportion to its means, contributed more largely to religious and benevolent purposes than the citizens of Glasgow. The great majority of the givers, however, were men who, while they had money to spare, had not time, and in such circumstances the association supplied a great and important gap. Bailie Morrison then urged on the working men in the district to come forward and help in this work.

Councillor Waddel moved the adoption of a resolution, to the effect that a Committee be formed in the eastern district to co-operate with the Association, and to consider the propriety of establishing a branch; and if found desirable, to carry that project into effect.

The motion was adopted.

Colonel Buchanan also addressed the meeting, and expressed his sympathy with the objects of the Association.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Simpson and the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

#### CASE OF GOATER, *alias* GAULTIER.

At the Bow Street Police Court, on the 21st inst., *Alpheus Marcus Gaultier*, *alias* Goater, *alias* Hanbury Tracy, 38, tutor, was charged on remand, before Sir T. Henry, with obtaining, and attempting to obtain, by false pretences, various sums of money from Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, the Rev. C. T. Ackland, the Rev. A. J. Rivington, and the Rev. R. Isherwood.

Mr. George Lewis, jun., prosecuted, on behalf of the Charity Organisation Society.

It will be remembered that the evidence given on the last occasion went to prove that the prisoner had been in the habit of calling at different gentlemen's houses, representing that he had obtained situations as tutor in different grammar-schools throughout the country, and borrowing money to pay his fare to those places, which money he never repaid.

Mr. John Gregory Jones, secretary of the Liverpool College, said that the Rev. George Butler was the principal of the college, and that the prisoner was not appointed master to that college at any time during 1873. The college was formerly called the Liverpool Collegiate Institution.

The Rev. Hubert Ashton Holden, D.C.L., head-master of Ipswich Grammar School, said he had no knowledge whatever of the prisoner. He was not appointed tutor at Ipswich Grammar School during 1874.

The Rev. Richard Isherwood, curate of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, said that on a Sunday in November 1873 the prisoner called on him. He said that his (witness's) colleague, the Rev. Reginald Hay Hill, was a friend of his, but that, unfortunately, he was out of town. He said that witness could no doubt help him as well, and then stated he had come to town the previous evening, and that in getting out of a cab he made a slip and hurt his ankle, and while he was on the ground some one had run off with his purse; consequently he had no money about him, and as the old lodging-house keepers who knew him were dead, and others had taken their place who did not know him, he could not get anything to eat, and he would be greatly obliged to witness if he would give him something to help him on for the present. Witness referred him to Mr. Hill's brother, and declined to assist him.

Mr. Lewis said that the Rev. Arthur Canney, from whom the prisoner had also obtained money, was unfortunately prevented from attending through illness. He also stated that on August 3, 1860, the prisoner had been convicted of a similar offence at Canterbury, and sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment; on October 19, 1864, he was again convicted at Honiton, in Devonshire, and sentenced to six weeks; and again, on August 15, 1868, at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, he was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment. It was owing to the extended character of the prisoner's frauds on the charitable that the Society had taken these cases up.

The prisoner contradicted a statement made by Mr. Lewis to the effect that he had been getting his living in this way for 15 years. He said he had been in several situations during that time. He reserved his defence.

Sir Thomas Henry committed the prisoner for trial, expressing his approval of the action of the Society with regard to the case, and ordering that the expenses of the witnesses should be paid.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of January 1875 was 37,033, and 62,883 received out-door relief, making a total of 99,916. This is an increase of 394 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 6,992, 11,774, and 23,936 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 438. This is an increase of 14 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 146 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### THE SANITARY RECORD: A JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Every Saturday, price 4d. A Weekly Journal of the Progress of Hygiene of Cities, Towns, Rural Districts, Mines, Factories, and Habitations; the Food, Water, Gas Supply, and Drainage of Towns and Rural Districts; the Vital Statistics of Population; the Influence on Health of Trades and Occupations, and the Operation of Acts bearing upon Public Health.

THE SANITARY RECORD contains also Leaders, Notes of the Week, Reports, Reviews, Proceedings of Sanitary Authorities, Reports of Health Officers and Sanitary Associations, Law Reports and Commentaries, Answers to Correspondents, &c.

SMITH, ELDER, & Co., 15 Waterloo Place, S.W.

#### THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION

THE SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities, and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co's., 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 125.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY, 3 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICE.

On Monday next the Office of the Saviour's Southwark Committee will be removed to No. 9 St. George's Circus, S.E.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major H. A. Sanford, Major C. C. Fitzroy, P. Ralli, Esq., *St. George's*; Henry Peto, Esq., Captain Elliot, R.N., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Lady Wilson, Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, J. Bickersteth, Esq., *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill Webber, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; Rev. Dr. Thompson, *Battersea*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; F. D. Mocatta, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., G. Blount, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 43. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*; Rowland Smith, Esq., *Visitor*.

A letter was read from Mr. Crowder, stating that a young man, named George Pavey, had lately applied to the East London Shoeblack and Woodchopping Brigade for employment, and enclosing a report of a very unusual character, which they had received from the Brighton Charity Organisation Society; he recommended any person to whom he might apply for assistance to ask to see this. The lad's left hand is useless, the sinews being drawn up in a peculiar manner.

The Secretary reported that Capt. H. M. Elliot, R.N., had been elected a representative of the Westminster Union Committee, *vice* Mr. E. Noel, M.P., and that Mr. T. P. Price had been elected an additional Hon. Secretary.

Also that the Society had lost a firm friend in the Rev. J. Bowstead, late Rector of St. Olave's, Southwark, and Rural Dean. He had for some time been the mainstay of the St. Olave's Committee, of which he was Chairman, and had been in communication with the Central Office within a few days of his death, which took place at the end of last week.

He announced that Lord Hatherley had consented to take the chair at the Annual Meeting of the Society, which would be held early in March.

Sir Charles Trevelyan presented copies of a pamphlet entitled 'Correspondence relating to the Canvassing and

Voting System,' recently published by the Charity Voting Reform Association.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending January 23 the receipts had been £52. 3s. for the General Fund, and £101 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,104. 14s. 9d. and £54. 12s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had considered the reference made to them by the Council, and directed that the first ten lines of the pamphlet, to which objection had been taken, should be omitted, and that the title should be 'The Charity Organisation Society, its Objects and Mode of Operation.'

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

A draft Information Paper to guide District Committees in referring cases to the Newport Market Refuge, under the agreement printed in our issue of December 16, was adopted, after some discussion, and ordered to be printed.

A grant of £20 was made to the Shoreditch Committee, also a grant of £15 to the Stepney and Mile End Committee as an addition to their Permanent Loan Fund, which they had been unable to increase beyond the £25 voted to them the previous year by the Council.

## LOCAL RELIEF AGENCIES.

Miss Octavia Hill said that she had been asked to call attention to a recommendation with reference to promoting co-operation with Local Charities by a Committee which reported November 4, 1872. (See *Reporter*, vol. i. 162.) She thoroughly agreed with the recommendation, but it needed to be acted on rather than further discussed. The advance must be made by the District Committees; they must send members to the Charities, rather than expect all the Charities to send representatives to them. The Committees took charge of large areas, and they could hardly expect a busy clergyman, for instance, to come to a meeting which was in great part occupied with cases that were of no interest to him. It might be well if Committees were to follow the practice of some Boards of Guardians, and take the cases from different parts of their district together. The Report recommended that District Committees 'should invite members of their own bodies to take charge of fixed subdivisions,' with a view to communicating with the various agencies; she was inclined to think that relieving officers' districts might be taken for this purpose; there were six such districts in Marylebone, and she thought that one member might take charge of each for purposes of communication. The question would now be not so much of overlapping or investigation as of wise relief. This was the question that had to be faced. Some members should join each relief agency, and show, as cases came up, how they should be dealt with. Such persons would, she believed, be welcomed now, if they went in a right spirit. An abrupt change of plan was to be avoided. The poor had been



taught to look for relief, and it could not be stopped all at once. Relief agencies, too, must be expected to act differently in some respects from the Organisation Committees. They dealt more with cases of sickness, and could not always wait for the result of investigation. Her advice to relief agencies was to relieve cases pending inquiry, if they seemed to require it, but not to let that prevent their sending the case to the Organisation Committee for subsequent investigation. This led, no doubt, to some bad cases being relieved, but the evil diminished, for when once a case had been inquired into, any clergyman or charity into whose district they might move would be able to get information at once. Relief agencies dealing with small areas had an advantage in being able to see the applicants. She did not think that Organisation Committees should do this, but she was strongly of opinion that Relief Committees should require the attendance of the head of the family. Kindly cross-examination before a small committee, after inquiry, would often throw much fresh light on the case. Relief-work was best done in a small area, assuming that the relievers communicated with the Organisation Committee. In such an area there was continuous knowledge of cases. It was easily known, for instance, whether a loan effected its object. District Committees should look forward to giving up all relief, but to being used by the relief agencies for investigation and for loans.

Mr. Galabin pointed out that some relief agencies had no committees for members to join.

Sir Charles Trevelyan thought that what Miss Hill proposed was being carried out, in substance, in St. George's. The ecclesiastical districts (22 in number) had there been for the most part adopted, as the Church charities were almost the only charities. Where Parochial Councils had been formed some members of the Organisation Committee had always been told off to work on them, and in other districts the charities were known.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson saw advantages in taking Poor-law rather than ecclesiastical boundaries for subdivisions. It looked less like interference with the clergy. He had found the District Committee of great use to him in dealing with new-comers into his parish.

Major Prendergast thought it most desirable to take Poor-law subdivisions. It was essential that relief agencies of all denominations should meet on equal terms. It was very important that the primary investigation of cases should be undertaken by the Organisation Committee, rather than by relief agencies.

Mr. Ralli feared that the Poor-law subdivisions were too large; St. George's Union had only four relieving officers' districts, and one of these contained all Westminster.

Miss Hill pointed out that, however great the knowledge of cases possessed by local agencies might be, it could hardly fail to be increased by the addition to it of what the Organisation Committee had learnt. The Committee should be communicated with about every new applicant. It was of little use for the District Committee to make advances until there was some readiness to respond on the part of local agencies.

After some further remarks the discussion closed with an expression of thanks to Miss Hill for having brought the subject forward.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Jan. 30, 1875:—*Donations*: G. Hardy, Esq., £1. 1s.; Sir C. Lyell, £5; Miss I. J. Monro, £1; T. P. Parr, Esq., £1. *Annual*: J. Aitken Esq., £5; J. R. Blakiston, Esq., £5; A. G. Crowder, Esq., £5; The Earl of Egmont, £3. 3s.; Miss Frith, £1. 1s.; Capt. Hon. R. W. Grosvenor, £5; H. Hayter, Esq., £2. 2s.; H. W. Hoare, Esq., £2. 2s.; G. D. Lister, Esq., £1. 1s.; Miss H. de Rothschild, £10. 10s.; General Spencer Stanhope, £5; The Misses Wakefield, £2. 2s.; Michael Willis, Esq., £10. *District Committee Aid Fund*: A. G. Crowder, Esq., £50; Mrs. Crowder, £1. 1s.; The Misses Wakefield, £40.

The following business stands for Monday, February 8:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee:—  
'That an additional grant of £30 be made to the St. Olave's Committee.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JAN. 30, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.			
Kensington .....	3	4	1	8	..	..	4	..	4	8	16	4	6
Fulham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	1	3	4	3	4
Paddington .....	..	3	3	6	..	2	4	..	1	6	17	11	1
Chelsea .....	8	1	1	10	..	2	2	1	2	3	20	15	6
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division ..	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	22	12	9
Westminster do. ....	2	..	5	7	1	1	4	6	2	1	3	3	..
Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	6	7
St. Marylebone .....	4	2	8	14	..	10	9	19	5	1	44	13	9
Hampstead .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	2	1
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
South St. Pancras ....	1	3	2	6	..	4	3	7	..	..	13	4	2
Islington .....	2	2	..	4	..	1	1	5	1	1	12	23	11
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	4	1	3
Strand .....	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	5	9
Holborn .....	3	..	1	4	1	..	1	2	3	..	9	5	7
City .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	11
Shoreditch .....	..	2	4	..	..	..	2	2	..	4	8	..	1
Bethnal Green .....	..	2	2	1	..	1	1	..	3	4	7	..	1
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East ..	1	3	4	1	2	..	3	..	1	1	8	5	4
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	1	2	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
Poplar .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
St. Saviour's .....	..	2	2	..	3	..	3	3	..	2	10	3	2
Newington .....	..	3	3	1	..	1	4	..	1	5	9	..	..
St. Olave's .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4
Lambeth:— { North ..	1	2	2	5	1	..	1	3	..	3	14	2	2
{ South ..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	1	2
Wandsworth & Putney ..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	4	3
Battersea .....	..	5	5	..	..	..	2	1	1	4	9	..	1
Clapham .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	10
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	..	1	1	1	9	..	10	2	1	..	3	16	2
Peckham .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	2
Greenwich .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	1	4	2	7	12	1	10
Deptford .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	1	3
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Lewisham .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	4	2	6
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Sydenham .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	5	..	4
Totals .....	29	31	62	122	7	36	21	64	54	18	13	20	105
											291	142	101
												93	

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

KENSINGTON.—*Assistance by Employment*.—The contents of the notice-board referred to by Mr. Edgecombe in our last issue, as displayed outside the Office of this Committee, are as follows:—'To RESIDENTS.—Persons requiring charwomen, needlewomen, knife-cleaners, women to take charge of houses, men to do casual work, may apply at this office.'

PADDINGTON.—*Labour Register*.—The following statement was received from this Committee, in reference to the Rev. J. D. McGachen's question as to assistance by employment:—

'The Labour Register was established to provide employment for applicants who attributed their distress to the want of it, and who, after the usual inquiry, were considered deserving and of good character.

'Slips informing employers that a Labour Register had been opened, and that those only were entered on it who, after inquiry, were found of good character, were circulated throughout the District, and every opportunity is taken of making known the existence of the Register, and employers of labour are encouraged to come to the Office.

'The Register is arranged under the heads of the various occupations, with columns for the number of the case, name and address of the applicant, and remarks.

'Whenever an application is made for a worker, the case papers are consulted before any applicant is recommended, and the name and address



of the employer is written on some official paper (generally an envelope), with the stamp of the Committee upon it, as a guarantee that the person applying for the work is sent from the Office, who in turn is required to return to the Office, and report if engaged or otherwise.

'The rate of remuneration is never interfered with, as this is considered a matter to be arranged between the employer and employed.

'Domestic servants are, as a rule, excluded, because, if admitted, it would place the office in competition with the legitimate business of Registry Offices, and because servants of good character have no necessity to apply to charity to obtain situations. A long illness or other unavoidable occurrence may have caused clothing to be pledged or parted with, and thus prevent a servant from obtaining a situation; such an applicant would be admitted, and possibly the Committee would assist in advertising, and when a situation was procured, help to obtain necessary clothing.

'In like manner boys are always discouraged in applying at the Office, as the demand for such exceeds the supply, and a little perseverance on their own part will always prove successful in attaining the desired object.

'The labour principally applied for is of a casual character, such as charwomen, the various kinds of needlewomen, knife and window cleaners, messengers, and such like.

'The Register serves in many instances, as a good test of willingness to work, and also if the want of it is a cause of distress, or only a plea for begging, as sometimes when a worker has been sent for, and this very shortly after application has been made for employment, the answer is returned, 'I have plenty of work now,' or even more forcibly, as in a very recent case, where the proprietor of a ladies' outfitting and baby-linen warehouse sent for a needlewoman, and one was sent to, who was known to be a good hand, when she replied, "that she could not think of working for a shop; she only worked for ladies."

'Great inconvenience, and loss of time and labour, is occasioned by applicants removing, and not giving notice of the same; this should be required from all whose names are on the Register.'

'From October 1, 1873, to September 30, 1874, employment in 109 instances was obtained for applicants whose names were on the Register, and this does not represent the full advantage applicants derive from the Register, as frequently one employer will recommend the worker to another employer, which naturally leads to a larger connection; and it often happens also; that the name and address of the worker is obtained on the first occasion, and when again required is sent to direct, and not through the Office.

'During the months of October, November, and December, 1874, forty applicants obtained employment through the Register.

ST. GEORGE'S.—The Hon. Secretary of this Committee writes to the Secretary of the Council:—"I beg to notify to you for the information of other District Committees that—(1) The case of a Margaret McCulloch has been for some time under close investigation, and has been decided to be ineligible. She has now left the lodging in which she was living, and we do not know where she has gone to. (2) A youth, aged 21, giving the name of C. F. Menteth, applied at this Office on the 27th inst. He produced a discharge from the 42nd Highlanders. He was offered Newport Market Refuge, pleading injuries, but refused to go. (3) Elizabeth Morewood applied at this Office on the evening of the 27th of January, stating that she had been sent from Newark Infirmary to St. Leonard's-on-Sea Infirmary. She was offered to go to the workhouse, pending inquiry, but refused.'

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the Lambeth Charity Organisation Committee.

Fourth Report of the Kent Mendicity Society for the Repression of Professional Vagrancy, 1873-4.

Eleventh Annual Report of the Liverpool Central Relief and Charity Organisation Society, 1873-4.

Report of the Monmouth Street Society, Bath, for the Occasional Relief of the Sick Poor and the Promotion of Industry, for the year 1874.

#### THE NATIONAL PENNY BANK.

The Prospectus of the National Penny Bank (Limited), which has just been issued, states the objects of the Company as follows:—

'1. The object of this Company is to establish a Penny Bank, on commercial principles, in London and elsewhere, similar to that which has been so successful in Yorkshire.

'2. The main wish of the promoters is to encourage habits of thrift among the industrial classes, to extend the facilities for saving, and to manage the business in such a manner as to secure that those in the receipt of weekly wages may use the bank. The establishment of "The National Penny Bank" on a strictly commercial basis, has been determined upon to prove that the industrial classes do not desire, or in any way need, charitable assistance to provide them with facilities or inducements for saving. At the same time the promoters, beyond providing powers to declare a dividend

not exceeding 5 per cent., do not enter into the scheme as a commercial speculation.

'3. The Yorkshire Penny Bank has been founded about fifteen years. It now holds invested deposits to the extent of nearly £400,000, and is a strictly commercial undertaking. Its success warrants the promoters in hoping that in London even greater results may be obtained.

'4. The undertaking is intended to be supplementary to the Post Office and other Savings and Penny Banks, but its minimum deposit will be as low as one penny.

'5. It is intended to make the rules and regulations of the bank as popular as possible; to bring the bank to the people; to start branches, wherever it can be done, at workshops and places of business; to avoid complicated and unnecessary restrictions; and, in fact, to carry on the work of the bank in promoting thrift, in the same way and with the same facilities with which a successful trader in any other business seeks to develop his custom.

'6. The bank proposes to facilitate the purchase of Consols in small sums, to promote Life Insurance both in the Post Office and elsewhere, to make known the advantages of Deferred Annuities, Endowments, and other means of saving, and to facilitate by the machinery of the bank, which will provide for the collecting regularly of small sums, the possession of such securities by the weekly-waged classes.

'7. As soon as one thousand shares are subscribed for it is proposed to commence business by opening a branch in each of the metropolitan boroughs.'

The following persons amongst others have expressed their willingness to assist in the establishment of the Company:—The Earl of Derby, the Earl Fortescue, the Earl of Lichfield, Edward Akroyd, Esq. (President of the Yorkshire Penny Bank, and late M.P. for Halifax), Sir Joseph Whitworth, Bart., and F. D. Mocatta, Esq.; and the Earl of Lichfield, General Cavenagh, the Hon. Edward Stanhope, Mr. W. M. Wilkinson, Major-General F. Eardley Wilmot, and Mr. G. C. T. Bartley are members of the Committee of Management. The temporary offices are at 112 Brompton Road.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its tenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office. There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh, in the chair, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, Colonel Fyers, Dr. Armytage, Dr. Hawksley, Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, W. Harris, A. H. Hill, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, visitor; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee concluded the consideration of what was being done in London for the industrial training of blind adults, and it was resolved:—'That, outside the special training provided by existing institutions, there is a considerable and increasing, but still insufficient, amount of training towards industrial employment afforded to the blind, by means of the elevation of character caused by the instruction imparted by the visitors of the different societies, as well as by private individuals.'

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of January 1875 was 37,025, and 62,646 received out-door relief, making a total of 99,671. This is a decrease of 245 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 7,754, 12,094, and 24,799 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 430. This is a decrease of 8 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 144 on the corresponding day of last year.

EFFECT OF A LABOUR TEST WITH DETENTION.—In our issue for June 17 we inserted a paragraph from the *Daily News*, stating that the Eastbourne Guardians formerly had a rule compelling casuals arriving at the workhouse on Saturday to perform the usual task of work before leaving on Sunday. During the last year some of these visitors objected to Sunday work, and after magisterial proceedings the question was referred to the Local Government Board. They decided that, although casual paupers could not be made to work on Sundays, they could be detained till Monday and made to work then. This the Guardians resolved to do. The result of six months' experience of the latter system was presented to the Guardians' meeting held on the 1st of last month, and it was shown to have worked exceedingly well. Only 26 casuals had come in throughout the six months on Saturdays, one a week, and it was remarked that no doubt these came ignorant of the new rule. We are informed that during the six corresponding months in 1873, when the old system of Sunday labour was in force, there were 110 admissions, and that during the interval in which no work was exacted—that is to say, the first three months of 1874—there were 57.



## ACTION AGAINST A BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The following report of proceedings in the Winchester County Court, from the *Hampshire Chronicle* of January 16, refers to action taken by the Winchester Charity Organisation Society.

*Bramble v. Taylor.*—This case came before the County Court sitting at the Guildhall, under the presidency of Mr. Russell, on Wednesday last, and deserves attention, so that the public may well consider, before they enter any 'benefit' society, whether it is worthy of their confidence or not. The plaintiff, John Bramble, who was represented by Mr. White, resides at Fulford, Winchester, and the action was brought against George Taylor, of 12 New Meeting-Street, Birmingham, as secretary of the United Family Life Assurance Benefit Society, the claim being originally for eleven weeks' sick-pay, from Sept. 28 to Dec. 14, 1874, at 7s. 6d. per week (£4. 2s. 6d.), less 5s. 9d., amount due for fees to the society during the same period, or a net sum claimed of £3. 16s. 9d. Plaintiff also claimed reinstatement as a benefit member of the society, or a penalty in case of default, as provided by the statute 18 and 19 Vic. c. 63, s. 42. The money claimed had been paid into Court, and therefore the only business was to settle the last items of the plaint. Mr. White, after reciting the above facts, said that Bramble became a member of the society as long ago as April 1873, paid up his subscription month by month, and during that time he had received some payment for sickness. Nothing, however, occurred of consequence till last September, when he was suddenly informed his subscriptions could no longer be received. He was then compelled to apply for relief to the Charity Organisation Society, who had virtually instructed him (Mr. White) to bring the case before the Court, as they considered the treatment plaintiff had received to be very unjust. The only explanation given by the society was that the plaintiff had not complied with the rules in the first instance by going before a medical officer. But this statement was erroneous, because he had gone to Mr. La Croix. Several letters passed, and, in order to show the spirit in which the correspondence was carried on by defendant, he would read one of them. It was sent to the agent in Winchester, and was as follows:—

September 28, 1874.

MR. G. BENNETT,—DEAR SIR,—I now write to inform you concerning J. Bramble. It appears that he was not examined by Dr. La Croix when E. Arnold got him into our Society, which all Persons entering the Sick department Must be examined by a medical Man. So now he we have found it out. J. Bramble must be examined by Dr. La Croix, our Medical man for the district, For him to give us Satisfaction That J. Bramble was a fit and Proper person to become a Member of this Society, before you can receive any more Money from him on our account and from all that I can gather Concerning him, I think both you and us will be considerably Better without him. And we hope that you will Push especially the *Life Business* and we will render you all the Help we reasonably can. And No. Dr. La Croix will use his Influence in your favour, you had better See the Dr. and just try how much real Good business you can get.

Wishing you and yours every Needful good for this Life and a happy home in a better and Brighter world, when you Have done with the Struggles of This present world [loud laughter, in which the Judge heartily joined]. Hope to hear from you Soon

yours Truly G. TAYLOR Secretary.

A summons was issued, and he (Mr. White) wrote to Taylor, but no reply came till last week, when the whole amount of the claim was paid into Court. Everything, therefore, was admitted by defendant, and now he simply came before the Court to ask for an order of reinstatement, or the penalty as prescribed by the Act. Immediately the money was paid he sent notice to defendant of the proceedings about to be taken in the County Court, as that Court had jurisdiction, under the Friendly Societies' Acts, wherever any one usual place of business was established within the County Court District. He could not call Mr. La Croix, as he was now on the high seas, having sailed to take a Government appointment at Dominica, in the West Indies, and there was nothing to show that this society was one worthy of public support. It was, perhaps, his duty to read the following letter, which purported to be signed by defendant, and was received on Tuesday morning:—

Jan. 11, 1875.

SIR,—John Bramble was told to send the whole of his contributions to our office That is due to the Society from him, with his contribution book, according to rule 23 and the notice on the contribution books.

H. White, Esq., Solicitor, Winchester.

Yours truly,  
G. TAYLOR, Sec.

Mr. White argued that defendant had no case at all, as he had waived everything by paying the money into Court. The Charity Organisation Society had sent to demand plaintiff's reinstatement, but only received an uncourteous reply.

His Honour made an order for the reinstatement of plaintiff in a fortnight, under a penalty of £50 in default, and also for the payment of costs.

**DORSET MENDICITY SOCIETY.**—The number of vagrants relieved in the thirteen Unions of Dorsetshire, during the quarter ending the 31st of December last, was 857, being a decrease of 72 per cent. on the number in the corresponding quarter of 1869, the year before the formation of the Society, when 3164 were returned.

**A HIGHLAND BEGGAR'S WALLET.**—The Inspector of Poor for the parish of Killeen and Kilchenzie forwarded to the poor-house, Lochgilphead, on Thursday evening, an old woman, well known in Kintyre for the last half-century as the 'Caillach na h'uidh,' or the old woman of the cave. Janet McCallum, for that is her proper name, is about seventy-five years of age, and obtained a livelihood partly by hawking and partly from the generosity of the public, and had never been in receipt of parochial relief. In conformity with the rules of the poor-house, she had to be stripped of her clothing on entering, in order to be dressed in the habit of the house. Her equivalent for a bodice was observed to feel remarkably heavy, and on examination a large bag was found secured to it, which, on being opened, was found to contain £45 in silver, £6 in gold, a Union Bank deposit receipt for £47—in all, £98, the whole weighing 11 lb. avoirdupois. Her 'pock' weighed 40 lb., and contained everything required in a kitchen and larder—cooking utensils, beef, several pounds of 'braxy,' herrings, bread, &c., besides small articles of clothing. Janet belongs to the parish of Skipness, and has been of eccentric habits for many years.—*Globe.*

**NOMINATED GUARDIANS.**—Mr. A. G. Crowder and Mr. W. Walker have been appointed by the Local Government Board as Guardians of the poor of St. George's East until the 15th April next.

**THE SANITARY RECORD: A JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH.**

Every Saturday, price 4d. A Weekly Journal of the Progress of Hygiene of Cities, Towns, Rural Districts, Mines, Factories, and Habitations; the Food, Water, Gas Supply, and Drainage of Towns and Rural Districts; the Vital Statistics of Population; the Influence on Health of Trades and Occupations; and the Operation of Acts bearing upon Public Health.

THE SANITARY RECORD contains also Leaders, Notes of the Week, Reports, Reviews, Proceedings of Sanitary Authorities, Reports of Health Officers and Sanitary Associations, Law Reports and Commentaries, Answers to Correspondents, &c.

SMITH, ELDER, & Co., 15 Waterloo Place, S.W.

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION**

THE SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities, and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co's., 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

**A STRONG CASE for HALF-BINDING the NUMBERS**

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 126.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY, 10 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICE.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, March 10, at 3 P.M. Lord Hatherley will take the chair.

## NOTICE TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

District Committees which have not yet sent in copies of their Annual Reports to the Central Office are requested to send them in with as little delay as possible.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon Kensington Committee; E. Waller, Esq., Fulham; Sir R. M. Stephenson J. R. Hollond, Esq., Paddington; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr Esq., Chelsea; Lord William Compton, Major C. C. Fitzroy, St. George's; Captain H. M. Elliot, R.N., Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho); Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, St. Marylebone; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Hampstead; Miss Collett, South St. Pancras; Rev. J. D. McGachen, Bethnal Green; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, E. Peters, Esq., Stepney and Mile End Old Town; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., St. Saviour's, Southwark; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., St. Olave's Union, Southwark; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., Lambeth; T. Galabin, Esq., Camberwell; I. H. Cole, Esq., Deptford; Captain Gardner, R.N., Eltham; H. Reid, Esq., Sydenham; F. D. Mocatta, Esq., Vice-President; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., Vice-Chairman; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., Additional Members; total, 28. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., Secretaries; R. C. Brown Clayton, Esq., Visitor.

The Secretary reported that Mr. B. R. Balfour had been appointed Hon. Secretary of the St. Olave's, Southwark, Committee.

## LOANS OF FIVE POUNDS.

Also that a District Committee having in five cases failed to observe the direction in the District Committee paper on loans, that I O Us for £5 and upwards required to be stamped with a sixpenny stamp, as agreements, at the time they were granted, a request had been addressed to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to allow these I O Us to be stamped, and to forego the penalty incurred in each case. The Commissioners had been kind enough to comply with the request, but at the same time gave a caution that the Board of Inland Revenue would not again deal so leniently with an omission on the part of the Society to comply with the law.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked how many of the District Committees had made loans of £5 and upwards.

Several members present stated that their Committees had

made loans of this amount to small tradesmen, persons wishing to migrate to the manufacturing districts, and others.

Mr. McGachen said he would put the question again next week.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending January 30 the receipts had been £60. 2s. for the General Fund, and £91. 1s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,148. 18s. 8d. and £110. 13s. 9d. respectively.

It appeared from the Report that applications for information, with a view to establishing Charity Organisation Associations, had been received during the week from Perth, Belfast, and Exeter.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND FORMS.

The following Report was brought up and read:—

Your Committee was appointed by the following resolution, passed unanimously at the meeting of Council, held on October 5, 1874:

'That, as it is very desirable to promote uniformity of administration in the various offices, a Sub-Committee be appointed to consider what alterations have been found by experience to be necessary in the various books and forms recommended by the Central Council.'

At the meeting of Council, held on October 19, 1874, the following seven members were nominated on the Committee, with power to add to their number:—Major-General Cavenagh, Major-General Bainbrigge, Major Fitzroy, Messrs. Edgcombe, Hollond, Peters, and Wightman Wood.

Major-General Bainbrigge being unable to attend, Mr. Hensley was appointed in his stead.

During the sittings of your Committee Honorary Secretaries and Representatives of District Committees were invited by two notices in the Reporter to submit suggestions personally or in writing.

Your Committee has held twelve meetings, all of considerable length.

At their first meeting they agreed that no change in the present form should be definitely adopted until the opinions of some of the Agents had been ascertained.

In accordance with this resolution, paid officers from seven Committees attended the ninth meeting of your Committee, and almost unanimously approved of all the proposed alterations.

Your Committee have had under their consideration all the books and forms recommended by Council for the use of Committees. They are as follows:—1. Application, Decision, and Relief Book, and directions; 2. Record Book; 3. Loan Ledger; 4. Loan Receipt-Book; 5. Labour Register; 6. Collector's Receipt-Book; 7. Application form; 8. Form for Subscribers; 9. Report forms; 10. Form of Acknowledgment; 11. Employer's form; 12. Previous address form; 13. Schoolmaster's form; 14 and 15. Loan forms B and C.

They have considered the recommendations of a Sub-Committee appointed by the St. George's District Committee to consider certain of the books and forms, and have had before them samples of older types of Application Form still used by some of the District Committees.

They have also had submitted to them a system of accounts which the Assistant Organising Secretary had been authorised to bring before District Committees; but as it appeared that it had been carefully devised and approved by competent persons, the Committee thought it unnecessary to consider it in detail. They recommend, however, that the existence of such a system should be made more widely known to the District Committees.

Your Committee recommend—

1. That alterations, more or less important, be made in the following:—



- (a) Application Book and directions; (b) Record-Book; (c) Loan-Ledger; (d) Application form; (e) Employer's form; (f) Previous address form; (g) Loan form B; (h) District Committee paper No. 2, Loans.

And they append sheets showing the nature of such alterations.

2. That the following remain unaltered:—(a) Labour Register, (b) Collector's Receipt-Book; (c) Form for Subscribers; (d) Report forms; (e) Loan form C; (f) Schoolmaster's form.

They further recommend—

3. That the following new papers be adopted:—

(a) A form of 'Loan Card,' in lieu of the Loan Receipt-Book hitherto in use.

(b) The St. George's Form for Acknowledgment, in lieu of the form recommended by Council on February 4, 1874.

(c) A paper of 'Directions' for the Record-Book.

(d) A 'Report-Book' and paper of 'Directions.'

(e) A 'General Index.'

(f) A new edition of 'District Committee Paper No. 4, Books and Forms.'

(g) A paper of Directions for using the Loan Ledger and Loan Cards.

And they append samples and drafts of the same.

4. Your Committee recommend that the Administrative Committee should be requested to consider:—

(a) The expediency of a new edition of 'District Committee Paper No. 2, Loans' (with a view of giving more recent statistics of the Loan operations of some of the District Committees), and of 'Information Paper No. 3, Non-Resident Applicants.'

(b) The removal of the words 'whether . . . . furnishing Reports or' from Information Paper No. 4, page 2, line 2.

5. Your Committee further recommend that the District Committees should be urged to adopt and use the 'Report-Book' and 'General Index' at once, and to introduce the other books and forms into their offices when the books at present in use are filled up.

(Signed) C. C. FITZROY, Chairman.

#### RECOMMENDATION.

A grant of £30, in addition to the £20 recently granted on account, was made to the St. Olave's Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Feb. 6, 1875:—*Donations*: J. Francis Austen, Esq., £21; Rev. G. B. Moore, £5; Lieutenant-General Lord H. Percy, K.C.B., V.C., £5; W. J. Thompson, Esq., £5. *Annual*: Miss H. Ballard Stevenson, £5. 5s.; Miss H. M. Ward, £1; Major Yard, £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Mrs. J. Hincks, £2.

The following business stands for Monday, February 15:—

The Rev. J. D. McGachen to ask: 'How many of the District Committees have made loans of £5 and upwards.'

Mr. F. J. S. Edgecombe to ask: 'What the practice of District Committees is with reference to requesting other Committees to make inquiries for them, when such inquiries might be made through the post.'

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee:—

'That the Council undertake to arrange a public meeting in the East of London.'

ERRATUM.—In the list of Annual Subscriptions which appeared in last week's *Reporter*, instead of 'Michael Willis, Esq., £10,' read 'Michael Wills, Esq., £10.'

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Paddington, North St. Pancras, and Eltham Charity Organisation Committees.

Annual Report of the Scarborough Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repression of Mendicity—1873-4.

Annual Report of the Plymouth Mendicity Society, 1874.

Eighth Annual Report of the Geneva 'Association pour Réprimer les abus de la Mendicité.' 1874.

Poor Laws in Foreign Countries, being Reports communicated to the Local Government Board by H.M. Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with introductory remarks by Andrew Doyle, Esq., Local Government Inspector.

Letter accompanying the Account of Donations received for Work amongst the Poor during 1874. By Octavia Hill.

The Doctor's Bill or No Doctor's Bill? A word to Working Men and their Families. By W. F. C. Jarrold & Sons, 1d.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEB. 6, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment				
Kensington .....	3	6	4	13	..	..	3	..	..	3	16	6	5
Fulham .....	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	4	3	2	8
Paddington .....	4	..	6	10	4	4	8	1	5	17	31	15	5
Chelsea .....	2	3	..	5	..	..	4	..	..	4	9	7	1
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division.	1	..	..	1	3	3	3	1	..	4	29	11	5
Westminster do.	3	3	6	12	1	4	3	..	1	4	4	2	..
Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	2	2	2	1	..	..	2	2	7	3	6
St. Marylebone .....	5	4	10	19	13	11	3	1	1	5	48	18	11
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	2	1
South St. Pancras .....	2	1	3	6	3	3	..	2	1	2	14	4	4
*Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	1	2	3	2	2	2	..	..	2	7	..	8
Strand .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Holborn .....	1	..	2	3	..	1	2	..	..	2	6	3	10
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..
Shoreditch .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	6
Bethnal Green .....	1	..	2	3	..	1	2	..	2	4	8	1	5
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	..	..	..	..	4	2	1	1	..	2	8	4	5
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	5	8	3
Poplar .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	4	5	..	1	1	3	..	2	5	11	1	3
Newington .....	1	3	4	..	1	1	5	..	1	6	11	..	3
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	2	4	2	1
Lambeth:—													
North .....	..	5	5	..	2	2	5	..	..	5	16	3	2
South .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	4	2	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	2	3
Battersea .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	6	..	2	8	10	2	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	14
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	..	5	5	2	..	2	2	..	..	2	10	..	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greenwich .....	3	1	1	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	6	2	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	6	6	1	14
Woolwich .....	2	1	1	4	..	..	1	..	..	1	5	..	4
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	1	11
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	9
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	..	7	7	1	5
Totals .....	32	21	67	119	2	39	21	62	71	12	8	21	112
											293	109	108
													94

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fifth week of January 1875 was 37,031, and 62,493 received out-door relief, making a total of 99,524. This is a decrease of 147 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,145, 13,243, and 25,651 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 445. This is an increase of 15 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 156 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its eleventh meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Lord Hatherley, Sir Rutherford Alcock, Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Myers, Dr. Armytage, Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, W. Harris, A. H. Hill, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, and G. Martin Tait; Messrs. C. Coburn, J. M. Hutchinson, and U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., Visitors; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee further considered Head I. c.:—'What is being done industrially for trained adults?'

It was resolved, on Mr. Martin Tait's motion:—'That the Committee are unable to learn that, as a general rule, there exists any provision in connection with the Blind Institutions in London for the employment of trained blind people, with the exception of those who are admitted by the process of election or by special selection; and they are of opinion that the facilities afforded for the employment of trained adults fall far short of what is required.'



## COMING MEETING.

CAMBERWELL. — The Annual Meeting of the Camberwell Charity Organisation Committee will be held at the Vestry Hall, Peckham Road, to-morrow (Thursday), at 8 P.M.; W. Grantham, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

## IMPROVEMENT OF UNSANITARY DWELLINGS.

In the House of Commons on Monday, the 8th inst., the Home Secretary moved for leave to introduce a Bill for Facilitating the Improvement of the Dwellings of the Working Classes in large towns. He said: In the course of the last Session of Parliament the Government gave an earnest of their interest in this question; first, by interfering with the action of one of the great railway companies in the Metropolis, and secondly by proposing a Standing Order, afterwards adopted, for the purpose of taking precautions in the case of other Bills of a similar kind from time to time brought before us. This is a matter which, as far as I am individually concerned, has long engaged my attention. But the attention of the Government was formally called to it early in the spring of last year by two memorials presented to the Prime Minister as well as to myself by two classes of persons, both deserving great attention. One of those memorials was from the Council of the Charity Organisation Society, who had given a great deal of attention to the state of the dwellings of the poor. They issued a very able report, and then presented a memorial to the Government, which certainly deserved their attention. They stated—

That the dwellings of the poorer classes in various parts of the metropolis are in such a condition from age, defects of construction, and misuse, as to be deeply injurious to the physical and moral welfare of the inhabitants, and to the well-being of the community at large.

The other body which addressed the Government was one of great eminence, and which has very seldom interfered with public business—I mean the Royal College of Physicians. So deeply did this eminent body feel that the condition of the dwellings of the poor in the metropolis deserved the special attention of the Government, that they stepped out of their way last year to present this memorial to the Prime Minister. They said:—

It is well known to your memorialists that overcrowding, especially in unwholesome and ill-constructed habitations, originates disease, leads to drunkenness and immorality, and is likely to produce discontent among the poorer portion of the population.

So that when the subject was brought before the notice of the House of Commons last year by the hon. member for Hastings (Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth) in a very elaborate and, he will allow me to add, a very able speech, well seconded by the hon. baronet near him (Sir S. Waterlow), I was able to give an assurance that this matter had received the attention of the Government and should continue to do so, and the pledge I then gave I now rise to redeem by asking leave to introduce a Bill on the subject.' (Cheers.) Mr. Cross then referred to what had already been done both by legislation and individuals. Much had been done, but the action of individuals and associations had been necessarily insufficient, and legislative provisions had, as the memorial of the Charity Organisation Society pointed out, been 'merely palliative in their application to houses, the original construction of which was defective.'

The evil (said the memorial) can only be adequately dealt with by making it the duty of some public body, possessing a wider sphere of action and in a more independent position than the Local Boards and Vestries, and invested when necessary with powers of compulsory purchase, to initiate comprehensive improvements in the interest of the poorer classes, as has been done with good effect in Glasgow and Edinburgh and other cities, and, in a somewhat different form, in Liverpool.

The Bill would proceed, he said, entirely on sanitary grounds, and would have strict regard to these two canons—that the State ought not to provide any class of the community with the necessities of life, nor to enable bodies of any kind to supply those necessities at a much lower rate than the market price. But health was wealth, and looking at the question as one of sanitary reform, the State had great arrears to make up. It should never have allowed some of these houses to be built. To illustrate the evils arising from unsanitary houses, Mr. Cross quoted largely from the death-rate statistics for small districts in London, Liverpool, and Manchester, and then related at length what had been done in Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, all of which he had himself visited, in the way of demolitions and new buildings. The Government thought that the Bill for the present, at any rate, must be confined to London and large towns—towns of 25,000 inhabitants. As to authorities for carrying it out, they had adopted for London exactly what was shadowed out by the Memorial of the Charity Organisation Society. It would be worked by the Corporation in the City, and by the Board of Works in the Metropolis, and by the Town Councils in other towns, and they were to be set in motion by the medical officers. When a medical officer reported that a district was unhealthy, owing to the badness of the houses, the local authority would pass a resolution that an Improvement Scheme should be prepared. This is to be accompanied by maps, plans, &c. All plans relating to London will be laid before the Home Secretary, and in other cases before the President of the Local Government Board, who, after due inquiries, will embody them in a Provisional Order,

so that the expense of a Private Bill will be saved. There are provisions for settling the basis of valuation and the mode of arbitration, and the Bill provides that when the sites are acquired the local authority shall not build, unless in special cases, with the consent of the Secretary of State. The House must not imagine that the results would be sudden or showy; he believed, however, that the measure would do the work silently but surely, and that in a few years the effects would be perceived.

Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth, Sir Sydney Waterlow, and Mr. Waddy congratulated the Home Secretary on the attempt he was making to deal with a great evil, and Mr. Cross having stated that the Bill would be in the hands of members by Wednesday, the second reading was fixed for Monday next.

## THE HASTINGS MENDICITY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting, held yesterday afternoon, says the *Hastings and St. Leonards Chronicle* of January 27, initiated one of the wisest steps taken for some years. Greater publicity, and removal of the *locale* from the Town Hall to the Castle Assembly Rooms, helped to secure an influential and comparatively numerous attendance. Amongst those present we noticed several magistrates, a number of the local clergy, and ladies and gentlemen well known for their benevolent leanings.

The Mayor (G. A. Thorpe, Esq.), in opening the proceedings, said the Mendicity Society was doing a good work in the town, very quietly, but most usefully, in keeping the streets more free from vagrants. The Society had that day to report an addition to its usefulness in opening an Inquiry Office to gather information, so that those who had money to give away might have the opportunity of knowing that it fell to persons who were really worthy of charity.

Mr. S. Gutsell, the honorary secretary of the Society, read the annual report and statement of accounts. The treasurer's accounts showed total receipts £88. 15s. 10d.—a falling off of about £10. The expenditure, £106. 11s. 1d., left a balance of £17. 15s. 3d. due to treasurer.

The Rev. Dr. Crosse moved the adoption of the report. He explained the two-fold organisation of the Society: To give relief to the poor man travelling in search of work; and to see that, in cases of resident poor, help was bestowed in proper cases only. He felt it was a hardship to send a man who was really in search of work to the casual relief of the workhouse. It was impossible they could individually attend to questions of relief; but he thought they might be said to have performed, though in a perfunctory way, their Christian duty, in providing a bed, supper, and breakfast for the wayfarer. On the other hand, they had established a sifting process. As a Christian minister he was bound, in the interest of the poor, to find out whether there was deceit and fraud in the applications made to him for relief, because the fraudulent man took away the interest which givers had in cases of distress, and shut up the heart and the purse strings. In bestowing charity there should be as much test of the worth of an applicant, and the same security that it was well bestowed, as if a loan was made.

U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, Esq., M.P., seconded. In the course of his remarks in support of the Society, the honourable gentleman explained his own position in connection with the Charity Organisation Society in London. The object and working of that Society he explained at some length, quoting largely from a paper read at Glasgow. He knew (he said) that the Mendicity Society of Hastings had done an admirable work in the town; and they had advanced a step or two in the direction of the larger Society in London. He had already availed himself of the services of the Inquiry Office, through Mr. Gutsell, and had found it work advantageously.

The motion was carried unanimously.

## BEGGING-LETTER IMPOSTORS AT BRIGHTON.

The Brighton Charity Organisation Society is endeavouring to break up a gang of begging-letter writers, apparently with some success.

On January 29, as we learn from the *Brighton Daily News*, Edward Page, 44, a man of destitute appearance, was charged before the Borough Bench with begging. Mr. Brandreth, the honorary solicitor to the Charity Organisation Society, said the prisoner had been the companion of the man Quinton, who had been sent to prison for stealing an Inverness cape belonging to the Rev. A. D. Wagner, at whose house he had called for the purpose of begging. In the present case the prisoner, about three weeks ago, called at the house of Miss Crusoe, of 4 Montpelier Villas, with a begging letter. He said he was a tailor, and had lost the use of one eye, in consequence of which he could only do slop work; this, he said, was difficult to get, so that he was in want of pecuniary assistance. He also said he had a wife and three children. Believing his tale, Miss Crusoe gave him a shilling, and he left. He, however, came again about a week afterwards. The servant, finding that he wished to force his way in, remained at the door and endeavoured to prevent him. Miss Crusoe, hearing the noise, went to the door and gave him another shilling, in order to get rid of him. William Collingwood, the officer of the Organisation Society, who apprehended the



prisoner in Chesterfield Street, where he was lodging, said the prisoner was one of a gang of begging-letter impostors who had infested the town for some time. Mr. Brandreth intimated that he would bring all similar cases before the magistrates, and that he should ask them to deal severely with them, in order to relieve the town of such vagabonds. The prisoner, who said poverty had driven him to it, was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

Enos Griffin, 40, a waiter, was charged with begging. Mr. Brandreth also appeared in this case. He said that the prisoner had been a waiter at the Aquarium, and had been discharged for drunkenness. For some time he had been lodging in Edward Street. He had in his possession several testimonials of good character, one of which he (Mr. Brandreth) knew to be genuine. The testimonials, however, were all dated anterior to July 1873, and he should have no difficulty in proving that the prisoner was a begging-letter impostor. Louisa Ryder, a servant at No. 6 Alexandra Villas, said the prisoner came into the area a few days ago, and told her to ask the servants for some money to assist him in getting to London. She declined to do so, and he prevented her shutting the door by placing his foot against it. Collingwood said the prisoner had lived almost entirely by begging, and mentioned several gentlemen at whose houses the prisoner had called with begging-letters, amongst them being Mr. Carpenter, Brunswick Square, Mr. Hannington, North Street, and the Vicar of Brighton, who had referred the case to the Charity Society for investigation. The prisoner, who had been lodging at the Wellington Arms, in Edward Street, had given an incorrect address to the people to whom he had gone with letters, and had instructed the landlady at the incorrect address to give satisfactory replies to any visitor who might call concerning him. The prisoner, who was a respectable-looking man, was sent to prison for one month, with hard labour.

On February 1, Catherine Williams, a middle-aged woman, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for obtaining money from a lady by a false statement that she was suffering from cancer, and was about to go to the Cancer Hospital.

#### CASE OF GOATER ALIAS GAULTIER.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday the 2nd instant, before the Recorder (the Right Hon. Russell Gurney, Q.C.), Alphæus Marcus Gaultier, 38, described as a tutor, pleaded guilty to obtaining money by false and fraudulent representations from Mr. A. H. Hill and the Rev. A. J. Rivington, and with endeavouring to obtain money in a similar way from the Rev. C. T. Ackland.

Mr. F. H. Lewis was instructed to prosecute, and stated that the prosecution was instituted by the Charity Organisation Society. It appeared that the prisoner, who was a son of a former proprietor of the Sydenham Park School, was a man of education, and had formerly filled a respectable position in society, but there were good grounds for believing that he had, for a period of nearly nineteen years, been carrying on a systematic plan of defrauding benevolent persons by false and fictitious representations. In the cases to which the prisoner had pleaded guilty it appeared that he had represented that he had been appointed a master in various schools in the country, but was short of the means to enable him to go to the place where he had obtained the appointment. On the faith of these representations sums were lent to him in the first two cases, but it turned out that all his stories were fictitious, and the Charity Organisation Society, by whom the matter was investigated, felt it their duty to institute the present prosecution. There was this aggravation in the case, that the prisoner had been three times before convicted of a similar offence, first at Canterbury, in 1860, when he was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment; next at Honiton, in Devon, in 1864, where he was sentenced to six weeks, and again at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, in 1868, where he was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment. The prisoner had also been recently tried at Lewes for a similar offence, and had escaped owing to a flaw in the indictment.

The prisoner, when called upon, made a long statement to the Court, to the effect that he was a man of education, and had filled responsible positions in different schools, which he declined to name publicly, and that he had been brought into his present position through drink. He assured the Court that if a lenient sentence were passed upon him it was the intention of his friends to send him to America, where he might have a chance of retrieving his position.

The Recorder said he considered the prisoner had committed a very serious offence, and the public were very much indebted to the Charity Organisation Society for instituting the present prosecution. Proceedings like those to which the prisoner had pleaded guilty were most mischievous, and were calculated to prevent really deserving persons from obtaining assistance, by causing charitable persons, through fear of being imposed upon, to withhold the assistance they might otherwise have rendered. The prisoner had been three times before convicted of a similar offence, and under these circumstances he felt it his duty to sentence him to be kept in penal servitude for seven years.

**THE SANITARY RECORD: A JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH.**  
Every Saturday, price 4d. A Weekly Journal of the Progress of Hygiene of Cities, Towns, Rural Districts, Mines, Factories, and Habitations; the Food, Water, Gas Supply, and Drainage of Towns and Rural Districts; the Vital Statistics of Population; the Influence on Health of Trades and Occupations; and the Operation of Acts bearing upon Public Health.

THE SANITARY RECORD contains also Leaders, Notes of the Week, Reports, Reviews, Proceedings of Sanitary Authorities, Reports of Health Officers and Sanitary Associations, Law Reports and Commentaries, Answers to Correspondents, &c.

SMITH, ELDER, & Co., 15 Waterloo Place, S.W.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.  
FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.  
PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.  
ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anne's)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Park Street, N.  
HACKNEY UNION—Old Town Hall, E.  
ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.  
SHOREDITCH—56 St. John's Road, Hoxton, N.  
BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
WHITECHAPEL UNION and ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—19 Commercial Road, E.  
STEPNEY UNION and MILE-END OLD TOWN—45 Portland Street, E.  
POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.  
ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK—9 St. George's Circuit, S.E.  
NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.  
ST. OLAVE'S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.  
LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner's Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.  
WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.  
BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.  
CLAPHAM—3 Polygon, S.W.  
CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.  
DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.  
WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter's Hill Road, S.E.  
LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.  
SYDNHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d.

s. d.

Forty Numbers (the average issue for a year) ... 5 0

Those who wish to subscribe are requested to allow their names to be entered as 'subscribing till further orders'; in this case payments need not be made in advance. Orders can only be entered for a year or other definite periods, if accompanied by a remittance.

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# THE Charity Organisation Reporter.

25

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 127.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 17, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, March 10, at 3 P.M. Lord Hatherley will take the chair.

## NOTICES TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The Islington Committee have resumed their morning meetings on the fourth Tuesday in the month, at 10 o'clock; on that day there will be no meeting at 7 P.M.

District Committees are reminded that guarantees for loans of £5 and upwards require a sixpenny stamp to be legally valid.

**ERRATUM.**—It was stated by an inadvertence in last week's *Reporter* that I O U's for £5 required a sixpenny stamp. It is the *guarantees* for the repayment of sums of that amount which are printed on the same paper with the I O U in the Society's Loan Form B that require to be stamped.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Captain Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major Sandford, Major C. C. FitzRoy, *St. George's*; Captain H. M. Elliot, R.N., H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; H. Hay Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Sir R. Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, H. A. Herbert, Esq.,

*Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 39. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., H. Howgrave Graham, Esq., *Secretaries*.

The Secretary reported that twenty-five copies of the volume just issued by the Local Government Board, on Poor Laws in Foreign Countries, had been presented to the Council. Mr. Doyle had incorporated in it some of the information which the Council had obtained and placed at his disposal, as to the mode of administering charity in foreign countries. He had been directed by the Administrative Committee to apply for additional copies, that one might be sent to each District Committee and affiliated Society.

## LOANS OF FIVE POUNDS.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked, in pursuance of notice, how many of the District Committees had made loans of £5 and upwards.

A letter was read from Major-General Bainbrigge, stating that the experience of the Greenwich Committee had led them to the conclusion that it was not well to lend more than £2 at a time; in case of a larger loan the borrower either found the amount of the instalments, which according to the usual rule would be one shilling a week for each pound, burdensome, or took a very long time to pay off, or ought not to require a loan without interest.

Mr. J. R. Hollond said that during the year ended 30th of September, 1874, four loans of £5 and upwards had been granted by the Paddington Committee. One of £5 had been made to a cab-driver who owned his own cab, to put it in a condition to be certified by the police; another of £5 to assist a poor person who obtained a living partly by letting lodgings, to pay arrears of rent and rates, which had gone behind owing to illness and want of employment; a loan of £7. 10s. had been made to assist in emigration; and one of £8 to assist a widower in paying for the care of his children at nurse. There was also a loan of £1. 19s. which was granted quarterly, and which therefore amounted to £7. 16s. per annum; this was also to a widower who had a child at an orphanage, where the quarterly payments had to be made in advance. The Committee made the payment, and the man repaid 3s. weekly. He thought that, as a matter of principle, there should be no fixed limit, but that practically large loans were not often desirable.

Several other members having stated the practice of their Committees, the Rev. J. D. McGachen said that the Bethnal Green Committee had only once lent so much as £5. He agreed that cases should be dealt with on their merits, but those only should be dealt with which were in a position to need charitable assistance.



## INQUIRIES THROUGH DISTRICT OFFICES.

Mr. Edgecombe asked the practice of District Committees with reference to requesting other Committees to make inquiries for them, when such inquiries might be made through the post. He thought that when an inquiry had to be made of a well-known person, e.g. an employer, it was best to make it through the post.

Mr. Hollond pointed out that, in the case of a migratory applicant for relief, several offices might apply to the employer in succession, if they did not communicate with the office in whose district the employer resided.

Mr. Seton-Karr suggested that the employer might be non-existent.

A letter was read from Mr. A. D. Graham in favour of applying through the post, unless there was reason to doubt the respectability of the person of whom inquiry was to be made.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending February 6 the receipts had been £53. 8s. 5d., including £10. 2s. 5d. on account of the *Reporter*, for the General Fund, and £2 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,192. 2s. 7d. and £82. 13s. 9d. respectively.

Also that the Finance and Supervision Sub-Committees had considered an application for an addition to the staff in the Organising Secretary's department, and were of opinion—

First. That the system of record and check now in force is too elaborate and cumbrous. They have suggested some modifications in the mode of entering up the records which they believe will lead to a slight diminution of clerical labour, but there will still be considerable room for further improvement.

Second. That, in order to secure efficiency as well as economy, it is necessary that the department should be replaced upon its originally contemplated basis, and not continue, as at present, divided into two distinct branches. The existing division was sanctioned simply as a temporary measure, consequent on Mr. Turner's absence from the office owing to serious illness; to its subsequent retention, after the emergency for which it had been required and authorised had ceased, the present unsatisfactory state of affairs may in a great degree be attributed.

In the event of the Council concurring in the views above expressed, your Committee would recommend that, for the due discharge of the duties appertaining to the Organising Secretary's Department, the following establishment should be sanctioned:—

Secretary.  
Assistant-Secretary.  
Chief Clerk (to act when necessary as Head Inquiry Officer).  
Inquiry Officer.  
Clerk.  
Assistant-Clerk.

And that they had adopted the above as a recommendation to the Council.

## MEETING IN EAST LONDON.

Mr. Russell Barrington moved the adoption of the recommendation of the Administrative Committee—

That the Council undertake to arrange a public meeting in the East of London.

The East London Committees were in favour of such a meeting being held, but it would be difficult for them to make the necessary arrangements.

After some discussion the following motion was substituted for the recommendation, at Mr. Wightman Wood's suggestion, and was agreed to:—

That it be referred to the Administrative Committee to organise a meeting in the East of London (in connection with the local District Committees), to advocate the principles and objects of the Society; and that the Administrative Committee report to Council at the first meeting after Easter what steps they have taken, and what probability there is of success.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND FORMS.

Major FitzRoy moved the adoption of this Report, which

was printed in full in our last issue. He had himself tested several of the proposed alterations. The Committee owed thanks to Mr. Howgrave Graham for the pains he had taken as their Secretary.

Mr. Wightman Wood bore testimony to Major FitzRoy's industry as Chairman of the Committee. He would be sorry to unsettle any conclusion which they had deliberately arrived at, but there were two minor points which had not received attention, and he wished, therefore, to move—

That it be referred to the Administrative Committee to consider whether Loan Form A should not be added to the list of recommended forms, and whether the schoolmaster's form should not be further revised, and that in other respects the Report and its appendices be adopted.

Mr. Wightman Wood's motion was agreed to, and the Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Feb. 13, 1875:—*Donation*: F. A. Hamilton, Esq., £10. *Annual*: C. A. Angus, Esq., 10s.; Miss Hall, £1. 1s.; Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., £3. 3s.; Mrs. C. Hunt, £3; H. B. Praed, Esq., M.P., £1. 1s.; R. G. Tatton, Esq., £10; A. Trevelyan, Esq., £1; W. Wynyard, Esq., £1. 1s.

The following business stands for Monday, February 22:—

To consider a recommendation of the Administrative Committee with reference to the staff of the Organising Secretary's department. See *supra*.

Major FitzRoy to move: 'That whenever any recommendation is brought up by the Administrative Committee, or any motion is made by an individual, whereby expense will be incurred or additional work thrown upon the Central Office, an exact estimate of such expense, or of such additional work, be presented before any such recommendation or motion is discussed; and that such estimate be printed in the *Reporter* along with the notices of business for the ensuing week.'

Mr. Phillips Jodrell to call attention to Information Paper No. 4, and to move that the latter part of it—'Reports'—be altered.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twelfth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Sir Rutherford Alcock, Col. Eyers, Dr. Hawksley, Messrs. T. Clarke, F. Fuller, W. Harris, A. H. Hill, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, J. Smith, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Messrs. C. Coborn and J. M. Hutchinson, Visitors; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

A translation by Major-General Bainbrigge of a paper read by Herr Moldenhawer, of Copenhagen, at the Congress of Superintendents and Teachers at Vienna, on 'The Practical Results of the Education of the Blind,' was read.

The Committee then took Head II. into consideration:—'What more can be done through existing agencies.'

It was resolved:—'That the Committee consider that blind children under the age of five years should be taught at home to feed and dress themselves, and that they should, if possible, be taught to read by means of the various agencies for visiting and teaching the blind at their own homes; but that in order that they may be properly taught, when circumstances admit of home training, simple but adequate instructions should be prepared and circulated as to the best modes of managing and bringing up blind children.'

POOR-LAW CONFERENCE FOR LONDON.—The letter of Mr. Brushfield (the Chairman of the Whitechapel Guardians), says the *Metropolitan*, with regard to periodical conferences on questions connected with the Poor Law, seems to have fallen somewhat flat upon the metropolis, and hardly to have been taken up in the manner it appeared to deserve. The Holborn Guardians being equally divided upon the question, the chairman refused to give his casting-vote, and thus nothing was done in the matter there. We regret that this idea has not been seized hold of more readily, as we feel certain that a proper meeting of the kind would result advantageously to local self-government.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of February 1875 was 36,496, and 62,271 received out-door relief, making a total of 99,217. This is a decrease of 307 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,084, 15,203, and 25,539 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 402. This is a decrease of 43 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 106 on the corresponding day of last year.



DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEB. 13, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.				
Kensington .....	1	8	6	15	1	1	2	4	3	...	2	5	24	8	2	2
Fulham .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	4	3	2	9
Paddington .....	2	6	8	...	2	2	4	...	1	...	2	3	15	12	6	...
Chelsea .....	3	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	6	10	12	2	1
St. George's:—																
St. George's Division.	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	3	27	11	2	2
Westminster do.	1	6	7	...	...	6	6	6	1	...	7	7		3	...	...
Westminster:—																
St. James' & St. Anne's	...	...	...	...	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	5	7
St. Marylebone .....	6	5	11	4	8	13	25	6	...	3	9	45	11	5	...	...
Hampstead .....	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	2	4	...	...	2	...
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	2	...	2	...	...	2	2	...	1	...	1	2	6	4	1	...
South St. Pancras .....	1	2	4	7	...	3	3	...	1	...	1	2	12	2	3	2
Islington .....	3	1	4	6	1	7	...	2	...	3	5	16	17	7	2	...
Hackney .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury Strand .....	2	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	4	2	4	...
Holborn .....	1	4	5	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	2	8	4	9	1	...
City .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	16	...	...
Shoreditch .....	1	...	1	1	1	2	4	3	...	...	7	10	...	2	...	...
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	3	3	1	4	3	...	3	...	3	10	1	...	...	...
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	5	4	3	12	...	4	3	7	3	3	1	7	26	7	3	...
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	1	3	4	...	...	2	2	...	1	...	1	2	8	6	1	...
Poplar .....	...	...	2	...	...	4	4	...	5	...	...	5	11	5	1	...
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Newington .....	...	...	1	...	3	4	...	4	1	1	6	10	...	4	...	...
St. Olave's .....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	4	2	4	3
Lambeth:— { North .....	1	1	3	5	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	7	5	2	...	...
South .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	...
Wandsworth & Putney .....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	5	2	2	5	...
Battersea .....	1	1	...	...	1	1	4	1	...	...	5	7	...	2	10	...
Clapham .....	1	1	2	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	4	2	2	15	...
Camberwell:—																
Grove Lane .....	3	3	1	4	...	5	1	1	...	2	14	...	...	...	...	...
Peckham .....	3	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...
Greenwich .....	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	6	...	...	12	...	...
Deptford .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	5	5	...	...	10	...	...
Woolwich .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...
Lewisham .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	2	...	16	...	...
Eltham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...
Sydenham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	3	1	1	8	...	...
Totals .....	28	28	62	118	8	35	46	89	61	25	5	20	318	140	103	124

DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

ST. GEORGE'S (HANOVER SQUARE).—Mary Murphy, late of Leicester, is known to this Committee.

WHITECHAPEL AND POPLAR.—These Committees have recently received grants of £30 each from the magistrates of the Thames Police Court.

CAMBERWELL.—The annual meeting of the Camberwell Committee of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity was held at the Vestry Hall, Camberwell, says the *South London Press*, on Thursday the 11th inst. Mr. W. Grantham, M.P., presided, and there were about sixty ladies and gentlemen present—a respectable gathering, considering the character of the weather on this evening. Amongst those present were:—Revs. S. Smith, F. Richardson, F. Butanshaw, C. J. Meade, McDougall, T. D. Morse; and Messrs. Denny, Gudgeon, Strong, Turney, Kemp, Lewin, Galabin, and Ribton-Turner.

Mr. Grantham, M.P., said he was pleased to find so many present on such an inclement night, as it showed that deep interest was taken in what he considered to be one of the most important subjects that could by any possibility be brought before either a meeting of this nature or even before statesmen in the House of Commons. The subject of almsgiving and the poor was one that dated back as long as England had been; and her statesmen had been, he was going to say, unable to comprehend it, or at least they had been unable to settle it satisfactorily for the country; in fact, it would be found that more statutes had been passed upon this subject than upon almost any other. He thought that fact alone would show how very important the question was that they had come together to assist in solving. After condemning indiscriminate charity as being injurious to the recipient and to the commercial prosperity of the nation, he contended

that societies like the one in whose behalf they were now met accomplished a great deal towards ensuring a proper distribution of the funds of the charitable, and at the same time repressed mendicity. He had stated that the subject was one that had given a great deal of trouble to the statesmen of this country; and he might remind them that the very first bill introduced this year touched upon this subject, for it was a bill to enable them to improve the dwellings of artisans, labourers, and the working classes generally—a bill which he thought would be of the utmost benefit to the country. He had been very much struck, on looking over some references to the old statutes, to find how the Government of the day had, year after year, in the earlier history of the Parliament of this country, tried to grapple with this question, endeavouring to accomplish what this Society now sought to do—to prevent indiscriminate almsgiving. Some of the old statutes he quoted, and then said that up to the present day no enactment had ever passed in Parliament which had really solved the difficulty, and no scheme had been successful until this had come into operation a few years ago. He contended that the system of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity was the best that had ever been suggested, and he trusted the Society would be supported as it deserved to be. He was informed that in this very large District the support given to it was not of that character which might be expected; but if this was so, he felt sure it was because the working of the Society was not so well known as it should be. In conclusion, he pointed out various ways in which greater support might be secured for the Society, and he trusted every layman would do his utmost to strengthen the hands of the Committee, so as to produce such an organisation as would not only be the pride and boast of this particular District, but the pride and boast of London itself. (Applause.)

The report was then read by Mr. Galabin, the Honorary Secretary, in the course of which it was stated that decided progress had been made during the past year in carrying out the objects for which the organisation was established. In various instances the Committee had made advances to enable persons to purchase tools, sewing-machines, mangles, washing-tubs, &c., to start in a little trade, to emigrate, or to remove to other centres of industry where they could obtain regular employment. Between September 30, 1873, and September 30, 1874, the sum of £64 was advanced in this way out of the funds of the Camberwell Branch, and £22. 15s. out of the funds of the Society for the Relief of Distress, through the Camberwell Committee. These loans had been repaid with a fair amount of regularity and promptitude. In extreme instances of destitution temporary help had been given while the cases were under investigation. Where these seemed to be past remedy, they had been referred to Poor-law and other agencies; but where anything could be done to lift the applicant out of the ranks of pauperism, there the Committee had rendered efficient help. In addition to the sum of £141. 8s. 11d. expended in this way out of their own funds, the Camberwell Committee had been helped to dispense the further sum of about £100, provided from the funds of the Society for the Relief of Distress and from other sources. From time to time they had been enabled to help the sick poor to become out-patients of hospitals, to obtain admission to convalescent homes, and also to purchase surgical instruments. The Committee had to thank the magistrates of the Lambeth police-court for a donation of £50; and they had also received, during the past year, a grant of £35 from the Central Society to furnish and fit up their office in Grove Lane.

The adoption of the report was moved by the Rev. J. Richardson, who made some sensible remarks concerning the great distinction there was between the poor man, the pauper, and the professional beggar. In his own mind he was accustomed to consider people as belonging to four different classes: (1) Those who were neither in want nor asked for help; (2) those who were in want but did not ask; (3) those who were both in want and who asked; and (4) Those who asked and were not in want. (Applause and laughter.) The noblest way to help the poor was to enable them to help themselves, and this he showed could be done in a variety of ways. One reason, he said, why, perhaps, this Charity Organisation Society had not received the great support which had been expected in Camberwell was, he believed, because there was in the parish a large mass of volunteer labour continually being applied to meet the circumstances of really deserving cases of distress and want. (Hear, hear.) With respect to the class of which he had spoken as asking and not being in want, it was necessary that the charitable should be constantly on their guard, and in this direction he was bound to admit that the Charity Organisation Society had done much good by their system of investigation.

Mr. Chute seconded the adoption of the Report, and in the course of his remarks showed that the Committee was a truly representative body. The Society was of advantage to those who came to reside in London, as it enabled such who had funds at their disposal to spend it in the proper channels. He also spoke generally concerning the objects and operations of the Society.

The report was agreed to unanimously. A resolution, pledging the meeting to support the objects of the Society, was moved by the Rev. T. D. Morse, who particularly enforced the necessity of endeavouring to permanently improve the condition of the poor, and



who regretted that the Society did not receive that support in Camberwell which had been hoped; and it was seconded by Mr. Ribton-Turner (the Organising Secretary of the Society), by whom some interesting statistics on the general question of pauperism and the means adopted for dealing with it were furnished. Towards the conclusion of his speech Mr. Turner said the highest and truest function of charity was to raise people above the necessity of seeking for it. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

At this stage in the proceedings Mr. Grantham was compelled to leave, and the chair was then taken by Mr. Strong, J.P.

On the motion of Mr. Denny, seconded by Mr. Gudgeon, a vote of thanks was accorded to the officers of the Society and the Working Committee, the compliment being acknowledged by the Rev. Mr. Meade.

In response to a vote of thanks to Mr. Grantham, M.P., and to himself (Mr. Strong), the Chairman said that he would take care that Mr. Grantham should be informed of the compliment which had been paid him. Speaking as a member of the Camberwell Board of Guardians, he said he believed that great benefit had been derived from the working of this Society, dealing as it did with cases which the guardians, however willing they might be to help, could not. He also spoke of the great importance of keeping people from coming to the Board of Guardians for relief; not that there was any disgrace in receiving relief from the Poor-law Board, but that it was an unfortunate thing for any poor family to receive parochial relief—the effect of receiving something for nothing being often very disastrous and leading to hereditary pauperism; indeed, there were cases in this parish in which there were paupers whose fathers before them were paupers, and who were bringing up their children to be paupers. (Applause.)

**HELENSBURGH.**—The Helensburgh Association for Repressing Mendicity and for Improving the Condition of the Deserving Poor desire to call attention to circulars which have for some years been issued from Helensburgh stating a case of alleged distress, and to suggest that persons receiving such applications should, before replying, communicate with the Secretary of the Association, Mission Hall, Colquhoun Square, Helensburgh.

#### THE SEAMEN AND FISHERMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

At the Bedford Borough Petty Sessions, on Monday, January 25, before the Mayor (Alderman Hurst), Mr. John Howard, Mr. John R. Bull, and Mr. A. E. Burch, Thomas Sherwood Young (57), who gave his address as 5 White Post Terrace, Gravesend, and his occupation as a carpenter, was charged with obtaining, on the 23rd inst., by false pretences, the sum of 5s. from Mr. Fredk. Howard, Britannia Ironworks.—Mr. Howard stated: At the end of August last the accused called upon me and asked for a subscription for the so-called Seamen and Fishermen's Friend Society. The subscription of 5s. was paid, and on referring to a receipt for a subscription paid six months previously I sent a communication to the society, asking that, as the subscription had been already paid, the 5s. last given should be returned in stamps. As no answer arrived within about a week, another letter was sent, and both were returned from the Dead-letter Office, the society not being known. I communicated with a private inquiry office in London, and received a letter to the effect that they could not hear of such a society, and feared it was a swindle, as there were no New Victoria Docks. I kept the papers in expectation that the man would call on me again, and on Saturday last he did call. He asked me for my subscription, and I paid him 5s., for which he gave me a receipt. I told him I was not quite satisfied, and asked him if he had a copy of the report of last year. He said it was not printed; I asked him if he had one for the previous year, and he said 'No.' I asked him how it was that the society was not in the *London Directory*, and he said they were too late to get it inserted. I then asked if he had any credentials with him; he pulled out the book now produced, containing the names of captains, &c., but no addresses to them. I told him I should be sorry to injure him, but I must be satisfied with regard to the society. I showed him part of the letter from the private inquiry office to the effect that there were no New Victoria Docks. He said it was the postman's fault that my letters were not delivered, that the society had removed from Limehouse to the New Victoria Docks, and that it had been in existence twenty-two years. I said I should like to be satisfied that his story was genuine, and asked him if he would accompany an officer to London, so that he might point out the office of the society. He said he would go. I sent for Inspector Haynes, and they went together by the next train to London. The book shows that the man has been to Reading, Margate, and other places.—Inspector Haynes deposed that on the train arriving at St. Pancras the accused retired for a time, bolting himself in; and as he was heard to tear up a lot of paper the officer rapped at the door several times. When the man came out Haynes said, 'It is evident to me by your manner in tearing up that paper that you have been playing me false.' He replied, 'I have.' Witness continued: I said, 'Then why could you not have acknowledged it at the other end, instead of giving this trouble and putting Mr. Howard to the expense of our coming up here?' He said, 'I wish I had now.' I said, 'I think you have been at this game for years.'

He replied, 'I once did belong to a society, and I did think of giving this up, only I have an invalid wife and child with bad sight.' I took him into custody, and told him to give up everything he had in his possession. I received from him £1. 15s. 1½d. and the papers I now produce.—The Bench remanded the accused for a week.

On Monday, February 1, the prisoner was again brought before the same Bench.—Inspector Haynes deposed that he proceeded to London on Friday last to make inquiries. He found no such place as the 'New' Victoria Docks, neither did he find any such association as the Seamen and Fishermen's Friend Society.—The prisoner did not say anything in his defence. On being told he would be committed to the Sessions he asked to be allowed to go out on bail, but his request was not acceded to. *The Bedfordshire Times and Independent*, from which the above account is taken, says that the prisoner's books show that he has collected the following totals: In the latter part of 1872, £20. 18s.; in the year 1873, £64. 6s. 6d.; in the year 1874, £117. 10s. 6d.; and in January 1875, £12. 14s. 6d. His books further prove he had visited Bedford on the 14th of February 1873, the 11th of February 1874, on the 13th and 28th of August, 1874, and on the 23rd of January 1875 (the time of the present fraud). He has been living at Gravesend for the past twelve months and has some respectable connexions. It is also said he has frequently followed the occupation of a lay preacher.

[The prisoner has long been known to the Charity Organisation Society, and they have furnished information with regard to him to the Chief Constable of Bedford. An account of the proceedings against Young at Ware in connection with the same society will be found in the *Reporter* of July 3, 1872; Vol. I., page 122.]

**THE POPULATION OF LONDON IN 1875.**—The Registrar-General states that the population of London in the middle of this year is estimated at 3,445,100, which exceeds by 44,459, or 1·3 per cent., the estimate for the middle of 1874. The excess of births over deaths in 1874 was 44,788. It follows, therefore, that the gain to the population by immigration is very nearly balanced by the loss from emigration. For registration purposes London has for many years been divided into five groups of districts. The largest of these is the South group, which in 1875 is estimated to have a population of 1,054,083; the North group has 808,861, the East 663,810, the West 605,995, whereas the smallest and Central group has only 312,411 inhabitants. The population of this Central group, including the City, is estimated to be declining at the rate of 1·6 per cent. per annum; whereas the rate of increase in the other groups ranges from 0·9 in the East to 2·0 per cent. in the South group, where the largest area still remains to be built over.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 128.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 24, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is** the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Strand Committee will keep its Office open in future from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met as usual at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; W. Musared, Esq., E. Waller, Esq., Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Captain Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major Sandford, W. W. Moore, Esq., Major C. C. Fitzroy, P. Ralli, Esq., *St. George's*; Captain L. M. Elliot, R.N., H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. Hay Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. I. J. Cummins, *City*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth and Putney*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; George Parker, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; F. D. Mocatta, Esq., W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-Presidents*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 40. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from the St. George's Committee, stating that Mr. W. Westby Moore would act as a representative during the absence of Mr. Duff.

The Secretary reported that twenty-five more copies of the volume on Poor-laws in Foreign Countries had been received from the Local Government Board, and that a copy

would be sent to each District Committee and Affiliated Society; also that he had been instructed to send a list of the Almoners of the Society for the Relief of Distress to each District Committee.

## OUT-PATIENTS AT HOSPITALS.

He reported that the Committee of the Royal Free Hospital had approved the suggestion of the Administrative Committee, that the Report on the Inquiry into their Out-patient Department should be printed, and that it was in the printer's hands. The names and addresses of 641 applicants had been taken down, without selection, and those who had conducted the investigation were of opinion, after making allowances for dependent relatives and other exceptional circumstances, that 12 of these could have paid a doctor's bill, that 231 could have subscribed to a provident dispensary, that 169 might be described as proper applicants, and that 57 should have gone to the parish doctor; 103 gave false names or addresses, and from about 69 no sufficient information was obtained.

## TREATMENT OF DESERVING CASES.

Miss Octavia Hill called attention to the following extract from the Report of the Leeds Council Improvement Society:—

Twenty-four cases have this year been added to the 'deserving list, which now includes 113 cases requiring more or less of permanent assistance. The 'deserving list' is dealt with by the Ladies' Committee, who introduce the cases to the notice of such charitable persons as are willing to take entire charge of them, personally to visit them, and to give from time to time the assistance and advice which may be found needful. This is a very important branch of the Committee's work, and is the natural counterpart of their effort to discourage indiscriminate almsgiving. There can be little doubt that as, in our large towns, the dwellings of the rich and those of the poor become more and more separated, and in most cases neither business nor pleasure lead the well-to-do portion of the population across the neutral ground to the districts where poverty and misery find their home, so the intercourse between rich and poor tends to become less and less. If this feature of modern town life is pregnant with danger, and if occasional contact with sickness and misery is a blessing to the giver as well as to the receiver of help, then the Committee feel sure that they are doing a good work in promoting personal intercourse between charitable persons and the deserving poor; and they earnestly hope that ladies or gentlemen who may be disposed to undertake the care of any case will communicate with the Society's Office, and give their aid to the Ladies' Committee.

She thought that the District Committees would do well to keep such lists. There were chronic cases which the Committees could not undertake to pension out of their own funds, but which they would be glad to put into communication with benevolent individuals.

Mr. Seton-Karr feared that the difficulty would be in finding a sufficient number of benevolent individuals.

## HOUSES IN PYE STREET, WESTMINSTER.

Mr. Seton-Karr asked whether the attention of the St. George's Committee had been called to the condition of the houses in Pye Street, Westminster

Mr. Parry Woodcock said that he had known Pye Street for



long, and that its condition was 100 per cent. better than it had been twenty years ago. The lodging-houses had been greatly improved by being under police supervision.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending February 13 the receipts had been £30. 16s. 0d. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,212. 2s. 0d. and £82. 13s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had ordered that translations of three papers read at the Vienna Congress of Superintendents of Institutions for the Blind should be printed for the use of the Special Committee on the Blind.

A circular to the District Committees to accompany sample sheets of the revised books and forms was brought up from the Administrative Committee and approved.

#### THE ORGANISING SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary read the recommendation of the Administrative Committee on this subject, which was printed in full in the last *Reporter*. He explained that the permanent staff of the Office had remained the same in number since early in 1873, though the work of the Office had much increased; in July of that year two extra men had been dismissed on the recommendation of the Expenditure Committee, and the question of extra clerkage and of an addition to the staff had been before the Council again and again since that time, but always with reference to the same number of men.

The Rev. W. H. Langhorne moved the adoption of the Report.

Sir Charles Trevelyan referred to the duties of the Organising Secretary. The establishment was already insufficient, and the Committee proposed to reduce it. He disputed the statement in the recommendation that the subdivision of the department had been sanctioned as a temporary measure; it dated from November 1872. This division of labour had worked well. He would move as an amendment:—

That a small Committee, consisting of Members of Council and the two Secretaries, be appointed to investigate and report to the Council upon their establishment.

Mr. Barrington thought that it would have been better if a Special Committee had been appointed to look into the whole arrangement of the Office. There was no doubt that the officers all worked hard, but the Committee thought that something might be gained by rearrangement. The departments of the two Secretaries were not well defined. He would like to see this reconsidered.

Sir Alexander Gordon said that the Administrative Committee intended that the Organising Secretary should subdivide his work as he thought proper. They wished to get rid of divided responsibility.

Mr. J. R. Hollond argued that no case had been made out for a reduction. Two extra clerks had been kept on for some time, so that the Report, which proposed to increase the staff by one person only, practically recommended a reduction. The result would be that the District Committees would get less assistance than at present. The District Committees ought to look to the Council for experience and assistance; but if this were to be so, the Central Office must not have its hands full of inquiry work. This could not be kept waiting. He would move, when he had the opportunity:—

That the recommendation of the Administrative Committee be adopted, but that no reduction be made in the number of Inquiry Officers until it be determined what work, if any, hitherto undertaken by the Society shall be discontinued.

Mr. Willis-Bund thought that no step should be taken which would prevent the Council doing the work it had undertaken thoroughly.

Mr. Mocatta thought it a matter of regret that larger powers had not been given to those who conducted the inquiry. The public were using the Society more and more, and the Council would have to use its best efforts to keep pace with the demands on it.

Major FitzRoy said that there was certainly no idleness in the Office. The question was whether labour could not be economised. There was much inquiry work done outside the metropolitan area for residents in London. Much of this was very well done; but the Council must make up their minds whether they wished such work undertaken.

Major Prendergast urged the Council not to waste the work of their Committees by rejecting a carefully considered Report.

Sir Charles Trevelyan's amendment having been put and lost by 11 to 5, and Mr. Hollond's by 10 to 8, the Report was adopted by 10 to 6.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Feb. 20, 1875:—*Donations*: W. H. Arkwright, Esq., £10; Rev. R. W. Bosanquet, £5. 5s.; Hon. H. S. Law, £2. *Annual*: The Earl of Aberdeen, £5. 5s.; Earl Fortescue, £1. 1s.; J. Faithful Fortescue, Esq., £1. 1s.; 'J. B. S.', £5; Mrs. Nassau Senior, £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: W. H. Domville, Esq., £1.

The following business stands for Monday, February 29:—

To receive and consider draft of the Annual Report.

Major FitzRoy to move: 'That whenever any recommendation is brought up by the Administrative Committee, or any motion is made by an individual, whereby expense will be incurred or additional work thrown upon the Central Office, an exact estimate of such expense or of such additional work be presented before any such recommendation or motion is discussed; and that such estimate be printed in the *Reporter* along with the notices of business for the ensuing week.'

Mr. Phillips Jodrell to call attention to Information Paper No. 4, and to move that the latter part of it—'Reports'—be altered.

Sir Alexander Gordon to move: 'That the Administrative Committee be requested to consider the work of the Secretaries' Department, and report whether any change in the staff is necessary.'

#### COMING MEETINGS.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday, March 10, at 3 p.m., the Right Honorable the Lord Hatherley in the Chair.

The Annual Meeting of the North St. Pancras and Highgate Charity Organisation Committee will be held in the Theatre of the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution, South Grove, Highgate, on March 15, at 8 p.m., Colonel Wilkinson in the Chair.

#### CHARITY VOTING REFORM.

The first annual meeting of the Charity Voting Reform Association, says the *Standard*, of which the Duke of Northumberland is president, was held yesterday, at the Westminster Palace Hotel. The chair was occupied by Lord Lyttelton, and amongst others present were Sir Charles Trevelyan, Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., Sir Rutherford Alcock, Captain Elliot, R.N., the Dean of Westminster, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, &c.

The report of the Committee, referring to the past work of the association, mentioned as an evidence of its success that 2,736 members had enrolled their names, the majority being names well known and esteemed for their philanthropic work. The document, dealing with the objections which had been made to the association, said that it had been said that this association was adverse to charity in general, and that it was opposed to the charitable institutions, respecting which steps were being taken to promote reform in the mode of election. So far from this being the case, it was, on the contrary, the good and healthy action of these institutions that it desired to promote. Again, it had been said that this association desired to withdraw subscriptions from charitable purposes; but this was equally far from the truth. Nevertheless, it might unhesitatingly be said that the association considered subscriptions to be more judiciously bestowed where the mode of admission to the benefits of the institution was on a satisfactory basis than where the abuses of canvassing and trafficking in votes still existed; and



they relied on the genuine charity and good sense of their countrymen that they would not give less because it was likely to be better bestowed. The principal objects of the association were to suppress canvassing, to put a stop to all traffic in votes and all vote-jobbing, including the purchase of votes at the time of election, exchange of votes for one institution against those for another, and all dealings with professional vote-brokers; to discontinue public polling-days, and to investigate and classify the claims of the candidates according to their relative urgency. As regards voting by the whole body of the subscribers, the association did not consider it essential that it should be abandoned, but they hoped to see it given up in cases where the tone of charitable feeling on the part of the subscribers could rise to the higher standard of foregoing a privilege personally gratifying to themselves for the good of the candidates, the sole object of the charity. Much had been said as to the impossibility of 'forcing' the various institutions to abandon voting by the whole body of the subscribers. The answer to this was that the association did not attempt anything of the kind, but would persuade the boards of management carefully to consider and correct the abuses which it was admitted on all hands had overgrown the voting system.

Lord Lyttelton, speaking in favour of the objects of the association and the difficulties with which it had to contend, said, with regard to the question as to whether the charities under the present system of voting attained the object they had in view, that, there being a larger number of applicants than the charities could take, the principle of election must necessarily exist; but although it was possible for every one of the subscribers to go through the list, under the present system, in order to select the most fitting candidates, it was by no means probable that they would do so, it being far more likely that they would act upon the *ex parte* statements sent forth by the friends of the candidates instead of acting, as they should do, with care and impartiality. It was a great evil that selection was given to persons who could not exercise it in any satisfactory manner, and a still greater evil that the greater amount of poverty should be placed at a disadvantage by inability to put the canvassing machinery, which was costly, into operation at all. Although it might be a fact that the present system brought large amounts of subscriptions, he maintained that they could not look for the blessings of Heaven upon charities with such unworthy and selfish motives; for those who supported charities only in consequence of the present system did so from some selfish motives only, and such he would not support. The selection should, he thought, be left to a body of men in whose impartiality they could trust, who would admit the most deserving cases. Although there might be objections to placing the control in the hands of a committee, he looked upon it as the most efficient and impartial method of dispensing the benefits of the various charities.

The Dean of Westminster moved the adoption of the report, and in doing so said that for many years past he had felt strongly the evils of the existing system; and in anticipation of the objects of this association he had let it be widely known that in all cases he made his votes over to the committee.

Sir Cordy Burrows seconded the motion, expressing a hope that the association would extend its operations by instituting inquiries into the management of the various charities, in many of which the grossest abuses existed. Amongst these abused charities he especially mentioned Christ's Hospital.

Lord Lyttelton said, with reference to Christ's Hospital, that there was an admirable body, of whom the world was not worthy, called the Endowed Schools Commissioners (hear, hear), and if the world had supported that body in dealing with Christ's Hospital the abuses might have been remedied. The law under which that institution could be dealt with still existed, and it was therefore possible to take the matter in hand in the future.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson moved: 'That, taking into consideration, first, the large number of subscribers to voting charities who, within so short a time, have joined this association; secondly, the indication in several quarters of an approximation to its principles; and thirdly, the very numerous communications from all parts of the kingdom expressing strong condemnation of the present system of electing candidates to most of our charitable institutions, and proving the existence of a wide-spread dissatisfaction with the system, it is resolved that this association shall persevere in endeavouring to remedy the grievous abuses so loudly complained of.' He urged that the main object they had in view was investigation; and if it was thought that investigations upon which the lives of men depended could be trusted in the hands of twelve men, why should not investigations as to the most fitting recipients for charity be placed in the hands of a number of jurors also?

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilkinson, and carried.

Sir Charles Trevelyan next moved: 'As a large number of charitably disposed persons consider our great charities are virtually closed to them and to the cases in which they are interested, owing to the expense, labour, and loss of time required for canvassing the many thousand subscribers, and the larger the number of subscribers the greater the difficulty, it is resolved that the public at large be invited to assist in obtaining such an alteration of the existing system as shall restore to them a common interest

in these noble charitable institutions.' He condemned the existing system of selection as a corrupt system of mendicancy, in which those most proficient in mendicancy, which always involved a certain amount of deception, were always the most successful. After mentioning that nearly all the 2,700 members of the association were subscribers to voting charities as an evidence that their operations were deserving of attention, he concluded by pointing to the necessity which existed for pecuniary support in order to carry to a successful issue the work they had in hand.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, in seconding the motion, dwelt at some length upon the evils of the voting system, mentioning that in the United Beneficent Society's voting papers there was one candidate making the 18th application, who was 81 years of age, whilst there were several from 72 to 75 who were making their 14th to 16th application. In reference to this he quoted Spenser's lines:—

Full little knowest thou that hast not tried  
What hell it is in suing long to bide;  
To fawn, to crouch, to wait, to ride, to run,  
To speed, to give, to wait, to be undone.

The resolution was adopted, as were also votes of thanks to the Committee and to the Chairman.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total		
Kensington .....	3	4	5	12	1	1	2	5	...	...	5	19	7
Fulham .....	2	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	2	1	3	6	3
Paddington .....	1	...	3	4	1	2	3	1	1	6	8	15	10
Chelsea .....	1	2	...	3	1	1	2	7	...	1	9	14	3
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division...	1	4	5	...	1	1	2	5	...	2	7	38	7
Westminster do.	1	4	4	9	...	1	4	10	...	...	10	10	...
Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	4	2
St. Marylebone .....	2	2	1	5	...	7	6	5	2	2	9	27	10
Hampstead .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	4	4	...
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	5	3
South St. Pancras .....	3	3	6	...	1	1	2	...	1	...	1	9	2
Islington .....	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	10
Hackney .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	6	6	1
Strand .....	1	6	7	...	1	1	1	1	2	...	3	11	6
Holborn .....	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	5	2
City .....	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	14
Shoreditch .....	2	1	3	1	...	1	2	...	...	2	6	...	3
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	1	3	6	1	4
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East	4	1	2	7	1	1	3	...	4	4	16	9	7
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	5	...	1	6	...	1	1	1	...	1	2	9	10
Poplar .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	2	...	2	2	...	...	3	3	...	7	1
Newington .....	...	4	4	1	6	7	2	1	...	3	14	1	2
St. Olave's .....	1	...	1	...	2	2	...	1	...	1	4	...	3
Lambeth:— { North ..	3	3	6	...	1	1	4	...	...	4	...	1	6
{ South ..	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	2	16	2	1
Wandsworth & Putney	...	2	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	3	5	1	5
Battersea .....	...	3	3	...	...	...	1	3	...	4	7	...	...
Clapham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	...	2	2	3	6	9	4	...	...	4	18	...	2
Peckham .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	3	2
Greenwich .....	1	3	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	5	...	15
Deptford .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	4	1	11
Woolwich .....	1	1	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	4	...	6
Lewisham .....	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2	1	5	6	2
Eltham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sydenham .....	1	1	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	5	2	8
Totals .....	31	26	55	112	9	26	31	68	20	15	121	299	118

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of February 1875 was 36,904, and 61,568 received out-door relief, making a total of 98,472. This is a decrease of 745 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,839, 18,930, and 25,292 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 440. This is an increase of 38 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 102 on the corresponding day of last year.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirteenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present :—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, R.E., Colonel Fyers, Dr. Hawksley, Messrs. D. Conolly, F. Fuller, A. H. Hill, C. A. Miner, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, Visitor; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

A translation by Major-General Bainbrigge of a paper read at the Congress of Superintendents at Vienna, by Herr Reinhard, of Dresden, was submitted, and it was resolved that the Administrative Committee be requested to print this with Herr Moldenhawer's paper, and an address by Herr Riemer, of Hubertisburg, in Saxony.

The Committee then resumed consideration of Head II. a.:—'What more can be done through existing agencies, by improvements in system of working?'

After discussion, it was resolved, on Major-General Bainbrigge's motion :

'That the Committee think it highly desirable that blind children should be educated during a portion of their time with the sighted, and are of opinion that efforts should therefore be made to provide in elementary public schools for those not in special schools; also that, to induce teachers to receive blind children willingly, full information as to the details of their management in schools should be circulated, with an account of the results of this system in Scotland and in London.'

**DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.**—The objects of Mr. Cross's Bill for facilitating the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes in large towns are summed up in the preamble as follows:—'Whereas various portions of many cities and boroughs are so built, and the buildings thereon are so densely inhabited, as to be highly injurious to the moral and physical welfare of the inhabitants: And whereas there are in such portions of cities and boroughs as aforesaid a great number of houses, courts, and alleys which, by reason of the want of light, air, ventilation, or of proper conveniences, or from other causes, are unfit for human habitation, and fevers and diseases are constantly generated there, causing death and loss of health, not only in the courts and alleys, but also in other parts of such cities and boroughs: And whereas it often happens that, owing to the above circumstances, and to the fact that such houses, courts, and alleys are the property of several owners, it is not in the power of any one owner to make such alterations as are necessary for the public health: And whereas it is necessary for the public health that many of such houses, courts, and alleys should be pulled down, and such portions of the said cities and boroughs should be reconstructed: And whereas in connection with the reconstruction of those portions of such cities and boroughs it is expedient that provision be made for dwellings for the working classes who may be displaced in consequence thereof.' The Bill empowers the local authority, which in the metropolis is the Metropolitan Board of Works, on being satisfied by official representation of the unhealthiness of a district, to make a scheme for its improvement, which is to be authorised by a provisional order, to be confirmed by Parliament. The local authority is then to carry it into execution, with power to sell or let, but not itself to undertake the rebuilding of the houses without the express approval of the confirming authority; which for the metropolis is the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Bill provides for the method in which local inquiries are to be conducted, land acquired, and expenses paid.

**AN ILLUSTRATION.**—We learn from the *Daily News* that on the 16th inst. Dr. Hardwicke resumed, at the Prince Alfred Tavern, Crowndale Road, St. Pancras, the inquest on the body of Mary Dubell, aged 70, who obtained a miserable and precarious living by stay-making, and who was found dead in the back kitchen of a house, 33 Munster Street, and whose death was alleged to have been brought about by the unhealthiness of the house in which she lived, although the landlord is a medical officer of health for one of the metropolitan districts. Mrs. Lucy Legart deposed to having known deceased four months. She worked for her living at stay-making, and was assisted with a small allowance by her relatives. On the 3rd instant witness made deceased's room, which was the kitchen, tidy, and went away. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day she was called by a lady visitor, and then found the deceased dead on the floor. Mrs. Ann Young, a lady visitor and missionary, stated that on calling to see deceased on the 3rd instant, she found her crouched up on the floor, with only her underclothing on, and quite dead. Although the deceased had a daughter who was married to a clergyman, witness held that her death was accelerated by want of food and other necessities of life. William Lovell, a locksmith, residing in the same house, said it contained six families in eight rooms. Deceased lived in the back kitchen, which was in a dirty and unhealthy state. Damp came through the walls, and deceased had to put pails to catch the water. There was stagnant water in the yard, and the

inmates suffered from the offensive smells in the house. A man and also a child had suffered from fever. Dr. Walter Smith stated he was sent for to see deceased on the day previous to her death, and his assistant attended, and reported to him that she complained of pain in the stomach, with colic, also that she seemed very poor, and he told her if she wanted further relief she ought to apply to the parish. Next day he heard she was dead, and refused to certify. The body was removed to the mortuary, and he made a post-mortem. The body was emaciated and so filthily dirty that he never witnessed such a sight in his life. Internally there were no signs of bronchitis. The liver and kidneys were healthy, and the immediate cause of death was, in his opinion, heart disease. The Coroner read a letter from William Clarke, a patient in University Hospital, formerly residing in the house, in which he stated that the stench in it was abominable, and he had frequently to leave the house and take a walk to avoid being poisoned by the foul drains. He thought if the flooring of the kitchens were taken up that stagnant filth would be found underneath. He believed the death of the deceased was due to or accelerated by the foul atmosphere of the house, which is farmed out in tenements, and the complaints of the lodgers were ignored. William Rouch, sanitary inspector of St. Pancras, stated that in consequence of complaints being made at the office on the 18th January he inspected the premises the same day, and found the walls of the back rooms were wet from defective stack pipes. The back kitchen, in which deceased resided, was exceedingly damp, and when she opened the door the stench was awful. The closet was without water supply, and the front area drain was untrapped. He gave notice to repair the water-pipe of the closet, the stack-pipe, and front area drains. On a subsequent inspection he found the repairs were done, and he believed that the evidence of the pails being put to catch water was exaggerated. On the 9th of February he accompanied Dr. Stevenson, the medical officer of health for St. Pancras, to view the premises, and found the yard flooded and the closet still without water, but both the water in the yard and closet were free from smell, and he believed the drain in the yard was stopped purposely. The jury had viewed the house, and some of them stated that the paper in the rooms and the staircase was decayed; and one member strongly remarked that the place was altogether so filthy that no gentleman would keep his dog there, and it was the worst place he had ever known a human being to inhabit. Dr. Gibbon, of Oxford Terrace, who is the medical officer of health for St. Andrew's, Holborn, as the owner of the house, stated that he had only come into the property since Christmas, and immediately the frost disappeared the water-closet and stack-pipe were repaired. The next house was occupied by a butcher, and his slaughter-house was under the level of the road. No doubt part of the smell might have arisen from that. Mr. Rouch, the inspector, contradicted this. He had inspected the slaughter-house, and found it sweet and clean. The Coroner remarked that the front kitchen, which was occupied, was covered with a grating, and that was illegal. Under the 35th section of the Sanitary Act power was given to the local authorities to register all houses let out by non-resident landlords, who were under a penalty of 40s. for not keeping their houses in repair, well supplied with water, drainage clear, &c. The jury ultimately returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony, and expressed a hope that the Sanitary Act would be enforced in all such cases.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 129.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 3, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

A small number of posters announcing the Annual Meeting of the Society on the 10th inst., will be sent to-day to District Committees. The Council will be obliged if Committees will have the posters put up in their respective districts and made as public as possible. A few hand-bills will also be sent in addition to members' invitations.

The Newington Committee will in future meet weekly, at 6 P.M., on Fridays, instead of fortnightly.

Should any District Committee or Affiliated Association not require the volume on Foreign Poor Laws sent last week, the Council will be glad to have it returned to them.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Captain Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, W. W. Moore, Esq., Major C. C. FitzRoy, P. Ralli, Esq., *St. George's*; Captain L. M. Elliot, R.N., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; C. J. Samuda, Esq., *North St. Pancras*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill Webber, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; C. A. Barry, Esq., H. Reid, Esq., *Sydenham*; F. D. Mocatta, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq.,

*Additional Members*; total, 36. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*; Miss Martin, G. D. Veck, Esq., *Visitors*.

A letter was read from Major-General Bainbrigge, calling attention to the Army and Navy Pensioners' Employment Society, as a society by which pensioners were often effectually assisted.

A letter was read from Mr. W. M. Wilkinson, asking whether Vice-Presidents, who, under Rule 13, are "honorary members, entitled to attend the meetings of the Council but not to vote," were not entitled to move or second a resolution.

Consideration of the question was deferred.

## EMPLOYMENT.

Major FitzRoy mentioned that he was informed that the Sister in charge of St. Mary's Mission, 68 Dean-street, Soho, had an opportunity of sending some respectable young women as servants to America; ages 12 to 25; wages £12 to £20.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending February 20, the receipts had been £30. 13s. 0d. for the General Fund, and £1 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,143. 11s. 7d. and £83. 13s. 9d. respectively.

Also that, in pursuance of the reference made to them on the 7th of December, they had appointed a Sub-committee 'to consider and report on the Reports of the District Committee Visitors, and of the Organising and Assistant Organising Secretary, with a view to strengthening and consolidating the Society's work in the several districts of the metropolis'; the following members to be asked to serve on the Sub-committee:—General Bainbrigge, Major C. C. FitzRoy, Miss Octavia Hill, and Messrs. Wightman Wood, Edgcombe, Russell Barrington, Crowder, Peters, Parry Woodcock, Hensley, and Fuller.

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Report of the Finance Sub-committee on the accounts for 1874 and their estimate for 1875 were brought up from the Administrative Committee for information. It appeared that the estimate for expenditure from the General Fund for 1874 had been £2,697 and the expenditure £2,858, but that the latter sum had included £100 transferred to the District Committee Aid Fund. The estimate for 1875 was £2,760.

The expenditure from the District Committee Aid Fund had amounted to £1,697, including £190 granted towards Permanent Loan Funds.

Sir Charles Trevelyan expressed the thanks of the Council to General Cavenagh and the Finance Sub-committee for the careful watch they kept over the finances of the Society.

## CO-OPERATION WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD.

Two letters from Mr. Francis Peek were brought up from the Administrative Committee, in which he offered to give £1,000 a year, for three years, to the Society, if it would co-operate with the members of the School Board, so far as to investigate the causes of the distress brought to light by their



visitors, and relieve certain classes of cases of which he gave instances.

A draft answer was submitted, accepting Mr. Peek's offer, subject to his approval of such arrangements as the Council should submit to him, and suggesting that before they formally proposed these a member of the Council and the Secretary should call on him.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson moved that the draft answer be adopted. The proposition was a very important one, and it was essential that any arrangement to be made should be in thorough accordance with the principles of the Society.

Sir Charles Trevelyan supported the motion. The proposal involved no change of plan. It would strengthen the hands of the Committees in the poorer Districts, and would develop the Society's system.

Mr. A. H. Hill said that there could be but one opinion about the liberality of the proposal, but he feared that serious harm might be done if the very poor were invited to come and make a claim on this fund. Every one would try to avail himself of it.

Mr. J. R. Hollond agreed with Mr. Hill as to the danger to be guarded against, but Mr. Peek's letters showed that he understood and approved the principles of the Society.

Mr. Phillips Jodrell hoped that there would be no specific appropriation to School Board cases; he did not see how this could be carried out; if Mr. Peek intended his contribution to be expended on the general purposes of the Society no difficulty would arise.

After some further discussion, the proposed answer was adopted.

The Annual Report was submitted in proof, and considered paragraph by paragraph. Various alterations were made, and the Secretary was instructed to submit two paragraphs to the Administrative Committee, on Thursday, for final consideration.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Feb. 27, 1875:—*Donations*: Sir John Gibbons, £1. 1s.; G. T. Ruck, Esq., £20. *Annual*: Thompson Donovan, Esq. £5; F. M. Gray, Esq., £5; Alan Lambert, Esq., £2. 2s.; H. Ludlam, Esq., £2. 2s.; W. M. Praed, Esq., £5. 5s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: F. M. Gray, Esq., £5.

The following business stands for Monday, March 8:—

To consider a recommendation of the Administrative Committee that the following Instruction to the Organising Secretary be adopted:

'That in all cases in which a request is received at the Central Office from a person having a residence in London, for inquiry into a case also resident within the metropolitan area, such request shall immediately be forwarded to the office of the District in which the Inquirer resides, to be dealt with in the usual manner. Further, that the Inquirer be notified of this on a form as follows:—

"Sir (or Madam)—

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of \_\_\_\_\_ regarding \_\_\_\_\_ and have to inform you that your letter has been forwarded to the \_\_\_\_\_

Hon. Secretary of the \_\_\_\_\_ Charity Organisation Committee, in which district you reside. They will make the inquiries as speedily as efficiency will permit, and report the result to you. The address of the office is \_\_\_\_\_

Major FitzRoy to move: 'That whenever any recommendation is brought up by the Administrative Committee, or any motion is made by an individual, whereby expense will be incurred or additional work thrown upon the Central Office, an exact estimate of such expense or of such additional work be presented before any such recommendation or motion is discussed; and that such estimate be printed in the *Reporter* along with the notices of business for the ensuing week.

Mr. Phillips Jodrell to call attention to Information Paper No. 4, and to move that the latter part of it—'Reports'—be altered.

Sir Alexander Gordon to move: 'That the Administrative Committee be requested to consider the work of the Secretary's Department, and report whether any change in the staff is necessary, or any re-distribution of office work between the Secretary and the Organising Secretary.'

The Rev. H. I. Cummins to move: 'That the Proceedings of Council with regard to Voting Charities be removed from the list of the publications of the Society.'

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEB. 27, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total					
Kensington .....	6	6	8	20	..	1	2	3	5	1	13	..	19	42	16	1	10
Fulham .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	4	5	2	11
Paddington .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	2	3	4	..	4	..	8	13	10	4	1
Chelsea .....	6	..	..	6	1	1	..	2	2	1	..	..	3	11	10	1	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	3	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	} 30	6	9	..
Westminster do.	1	3	4	8	..	3	4	7	4	2	..	1	7		5	2	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	..	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	4	1	4	6
St. Marylebone .....	3	..	5	8	..	15	..	15	..	3	2	1	6	29	6	6	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	2
South St. Pancras ....	3	2	1	6	..	1	3	4	..	1	..	2	3	13	7	3	1
*Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	..	..	3	3	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	6	1	3	..
Strand .....	..	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	3	8	9	2	1
Holborn .....	..	..	3	3	1	1	..	2	2	..	..	2	2	7	5	9	2
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	12	3
Shoreditch .....	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	..	3	..
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	3	6	2	1	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	1	1	..	2	..	3	1	4	..	3	..	2	5	11	12	1	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	2	2	1	5	1	3	..	4	1	1	..	..	2	11	10	1	..
Poplar .....	1	1	4	6	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	9	..	4	..
St. Saviour's .....	2	1	6	9	..	3	..	3	2	..	2	4	4	16	1	2	..
Newington .....	1	2	2	5	..	..	1	1	4	1	..	5	5	11	2	3	..
St. Olave's .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	4	1	4	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	..	2	2	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	2	} 7	4	3	..
South .....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		4	1	3
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	4	2	1	4
Battersea .....	..	3	2	5	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	1	5	10	..	..	..
Clapham .....	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	2	5	1	..	8
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	3	3	1	1	..	2	4	4	1	..	1	6	} 16	1	2	..
Peckham .....	..	3	3	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1		..	2	..
Greenwich .....	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	2	1	1	..	4	6	..	..	10
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	2	7
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
*Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	8
Totals .....	37	25	58	120	6	37	18	61	55	18	21	15	109	290	123	86	92

\* No returns received from these Committees at time of going to press.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its fourteenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Alsager Hay Hill, Esq. (in the chair), Sir Charles Trevelyan, Col. Fyers, Dr. Hawksley, Miss Erskine, Messrs. D. Conolly, F. Fuller, W. Harris, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, Visitor; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head II. a:—'What more can be done through existing agencies, by improvements in system of working?'

After discussion, the amendment proposed by Mr. Tait was agreed to in the following form:—

'That the Committee recommend that the age up to which blind children should attend an elementary school be fifteen instead of thirteen—the age for the sighted; that after this school age arrangements should be made for continuing their education and teaching them trades, and that the training should be such as thoroughly to fit them for the trade or calling by which they are most likely eventually to support themselves.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of February 1875 was 36,952, and 61,399 received out-door relief, making a total of 98,351. This is a decrease of 121 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 10,194, 20,427, and 24,546 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 439. This is a decrease of 1 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 184 on the corresponding day of last year.



## COMING MEETINGS.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday, March 10, at 3 P.M., the Right Honorable the Lord Hatherley in the Chair. Lord Napier and Ettrick, the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, M.P., the Dean of Winchester, Sir Sydney H. Waterlow, M.P., Sir J. H. Kennaway, M.P., Mr. Ernest Noel, M.P., Rev. W. G. Lewis, and others will take part in the proceedings.

The Annual Meeting of the North St. Pancras and Highgate Charity Organisation Committee will be held in the Theatre of the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution, South Grove, Highgate, on March 15, at 8 P.M., Colonel Wilkinson in the Chair.

## REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Whitechapel Union, St. Saviour's, Southwark, Battersea, and Clapham Charity Organisation Committees.

Sixth Report of the Upper Norwood and South Dulwich Charity Organisation and Mendicity Society.

Inaugural Address delivered at the Statistical Society's Rooms, Somerset House Terrace, King's College, London, on Tuesday, 17th November, 1874, by the President, W. A. Guy, Esq., M.B., F.R.S., F.R.C.P., &c.

**PROPOSED SELF-SUPPORTING HOSPITAL AT BRIGHTON.**—We learn from the *Brighton Daily News* of Thursday, that a meeting was held at the Town Hall the previous day, for the purpose of considering the propriety of establishing a Provident and Self-Supporting Hospital. The meeting had been convened by a circular letter, which stated that 'By the establishment of such an institution, the prevalent abuses connected with our medical charities will be, to a considerable extent, prevented, while a stimulus will be given to thrift and self-dependence among a large section of our population.' It was signed by Mr. A. Creak, the chairman of the provisional committee, and by Mr. W. Wilkinson, the honorary secretary. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Creak.

The Chairman said the primary motive which had drawn most of them together was a conviction in their minds that for many years past our country had arrived at such a condition that it was imperatively necessary to reduce the amount of mendicity amongst us, and to inspire a spirit of thrift amongst the people. (Hear, hear.) In spite of the accumulation of wealth in the country, and the increased wages of the working classes, the sums spent on the relief of the poor had increased very much, and that one fact alone was quite sufficient to excite great concern in the minds of all thinking men as to the future of this country. Communications were opened with a number of gentlemen who held these sentiments, and it was felt that one important mode in dealing with this great national difficulty was to see that the charitable institutions of the country were not abused. (Hear, hear.) He would not enter into the character of the abuse, and he need only point out that the indefatigable exertions of the local Charity Organisation Society had been the means of showing them under their very eyes the existence of abuses to a great extent. One-fourth of the population of Brighton were receiving medical relief of a gratuitous kind, and it was surely time that some steps were taken to prevent this state of things. Having been asked to attend a meeting at the offices of Mr. Wilkinson in North Street, he was, *volens volens*, placed in the position of chairman. The gentlemen present at the meeting immediately began to compare notes and to lay down some general principles, and the first opinion which was generally expressed was that they did not desire to compete with, or become antagonistic to, any existing institution. (Hear, hear.) And another thing was, they did not wish to start another charitable institution. If the proposed institution was to succeed, it must be made self-supporting. (Hear, hear.) There were a vast number of persons who were unable to get the requisite quiet, care, and food in illness, and it was thought that by the establishment of a self-supporting institution it would diminish a great amount of misery and suffering. It was also felt that something was due to the medical staff. There was no profession that was so shamefully abused as theirs, and it was high time that those abuses should be remedied. The question for them to consider was, how to get to work. Was it possible to make the proposed institution a branch of some existing hospital? They found, however, that there were some considerable difficulties in the way. He believed it was the wish in some quarters to make it a branch of the Sussex County Hospital, and he understood that there was an attempt about to be made to establish a self-supporting dispensary in connection with the Sussex County Hospital.

Mr. W. Percival Boxall said the intention was to have the dispensary supported by small payments by the patients.

Sir Cordy Burrows: Then it will not be self-supporting.

The Chairman, continuing, thought no one was in a position to say so. It was the wish of the promoters of the scheme that the medical officers

should be paid for their services. In concluding his remarks, the Chairman said it was felt that they wanted to carry out the same principles which were observed by the various friendly societies. (Hear, hear.) He added that the proposed institution would cost something like £500 or £600 to start it.

Dr. Kebbell said that when the fever hospital was built in the course of the present year they would have thirty or forty beds at their disposal in the Sussex County Hospital; and it was now proposed to adopt the very same plan there as was contemplated by the promoters of the present scheme. He pointed out that they should bear in mind that at the hospital they had a whole staff, and when the changes were made it would only be necessary to have a few more nurses, the expense of which would be defrayed by the sums the patients would pay. He quite agreed with the Chairman that the whole of the charities were placed on the wrong basis. (Hear, hear.)

Colonel Penton moved the following proposition:—

That, having regard to the existence of a large and ever-increasing class above that eligible for gratuitous hospital relief, and yet on which in case of sickness the cost of medicine and surgical attendance and appliances, in the ordinary way, presses too heavily, it is desirable that a provident and self-supporting hospital be established at Brighton.

Mr. Marriage Wallis did not think a single gentleman could give a negative answer to this proposition. The subject deserved to be debated from every point of view. He hoped this would be the case, and that no ill-feeling would be introduced in the discussion. (Hear, hear.) Let there be a hearty co-operation in the promotion of the movement, and if it succeeded surely a great feeling would be manifested in the town, which would be the means of inducing other towns to follow their example. (Hear, hear.) If he thought that the movement would affect the hospital or the Brighton Dispensary or any other kindred institution in the town he should take no part in it. (Hear, hear.) He had great pleasure in seconding the proposition.

Mr. J. Curtis expressed his conviction that the step proposed to be taken would be one in the right direction; and his conviction was founded upon considerable experience of the working classes of the town. The friendly societies in Brighton had a membership of over 7,000 of the adult population of the town; and although these, by virtue of that membership, had made some provision for themselves and their families in times of sickness, they, when in distress, required more than the mere actual money payment and attendance of a medical gentleman to which they were entitled. They required comforts which their homes could not provide, and, single men especially, more careful nursing than their lodgings could afford. (Hear, hear.) That people, not members of such a society, would also far rather go, when sick, to an institution such as that suggested, than to one where they would be the recipients of charity, he illustrated by reference to his fourteen years' experience as secretary to the Eye Infirmary. While he, therefore, supported the motion, he wished it to be understood that he should not think of identifying himself with a movement of this character if it would by any means militate against that excellent institution—the Sussex County Hospital.

Mr. G. D. Ryder had not the slightest doubt of the value of the principle, for the embodiment of which the promoters of this movement contended; but in Brighton they must take care that they did not militate against existing institutions. This, he feared, would not be avoided, unless they saw first of all an attempt to carry out the principle in connection with the Sussex County Hospital; and they should therefore delay action in the matter till the governors of that hospital had considered the subject at their next meeting (hear, hear), which he believed they proposed to do.

Mr. J. Dennant, as hon. sec. of the Brighton and Hove Provident Dispensary, expressed his hearty sympathy with the object the promoters had in view; but he had some doubt as to the manner in which it should be attained. They had two classes of people with which to deal—those who availed themselves of the existing charitable institutions, and who ought to contribute to their support but did not, and those who objected to go, under any circumstances whatever, to charitable institutions. The Children's Hospital appeared to be endeavouring, as far as children were concerned, to meet the requirements of the poorer members of the second class, by allowing parents to contribute towards the maintenance of their children when in the hospital; and the Sussex County Hospital seemed desirous of introducing the same principle in the management of its affairs. Both institutions, he might however add, should go further still; they should consider not only the cost of the maintenance of patients, but also the remuneration due for medical attendance. (Hear, hear.) Otherwise they would continue to be relieving the pockets of the wealthy at the expense of the medical men. But the contemplated institution ought to deal with a class of people one grade higher than those who derived benefit from the present hospitals. (Hear, hear.) It ought to provide medical nursing for those poorer tradesmen, clerks, &c., who would go into self-supporting hospitals and be glad to pay quite enough to maintain them there and remunerate the medical staff, and he would not oppose a scheme to do that, but would rejoice to see such carried out.



After some further discussion, Mr. W. A. Stuckey urged that if an institution of the kind suggested was to be established, it should be done with unanimity; and that this might be ensured, he suggested that Mr. Haselwood should propose that the whole matter should be referred to a committee to report to a future meeting the grounds on which an hospital should be provided, and the details of the scheme. At present the character of the contemplated institution was very vague and indefinite.

Mr. J. E. Haselwood readily acted upon the suggestion, his idea having been that the subject should be referred to a committee. He moved that this should be done.

Dr. Dawson stated the number and classes of cases to which he had had to attend during the four years, 1871-72-73-74, as one of the junior members of the Provident Dispensary, and there were six physicians connected with that institution. The cases altogether numbered 2,283. Roughly divided they comprised 121 charwomen, 18 clerks, 60 cabmen and stablemen, 284 laundresses, 242 labourers and labourers' wives, 195 needlewomen, 33 nurses, 890 mechanics, 97 railway servants, and their wives and children, and 343 domestic servants. The number of mechanics was very large, and they each received 5s., 6s., or 7s. a day. These were the people who ought not to come for relief.

Mr. J. Dennant asked how these got their letters.

Dr. Dawson had nothing to do with that. (Laughter.) He added that he could not see how the County Hospital could be injured by a self-supporting institution of the kind proposed. The hospital was a charity, and it would be impossible to change its character into that of a provident dispensary. Besides, there was room in the town for two hospitals (cries of 'No! No!')—one at the west end as well as one at the east end; Cliftonville, a rising place, being far away from the County Hospital.

Mr. W. Percival Boxall, after observing that great difficulties would be connected with the carrying out of the project under consideration, referred to the bringing of the principle involved before the Governors of the Sussex County Hospital. The subject had been already broached by them, but it was such a difficult one that they scarcely knew how to meet it. At their meeting on Wednesday next, however, he proposed bringing forward a motion to the following effect:—

That a committee be nominated to take into consideration whether it will be expedient to carry out a proposition, in addition to the present arrangements of the hospital, by admitting patients by stated payments under such rules and regulations as may be considered necessary by the Committee of Management, and to recommend the same for the sanction and approval of the General Court of Governors of the Sussex County Hospital.

He had been prompted to move such a proposition by one case in particular coming under the notice of the governors of the hospital, and which illustrated the natural repugnance and wholesome pride which prevented many from receiving charitable relief when greatly requiring some assistance, and the assertion that, by the absence of the provident system at the hospital, a working man was much more favoured than the class immediately above him. He agreed with Mr. Haselwood, whose judgment he had before found to be valuable.

The first proposition was ultimately withdrawn, and Mr. Haselwood's amendment unanimously agreed to. The following gentlemen were appointed to act on the committee:—Colonel Penton, the Rev. R. P. Hooper, Drs. Dawson, Kebbell, Stephens, and Taaffe; Mr. Councillor Wood, and Messrs. F. H. Appach, W. Percival Boxall, Branwell, J. G. Cockburn, A. Creak, J. Curtis, J. Dennant, J. E. Haselwood, H. J. Athol Johnstone, Percy May, H. Moor, J. E. K. Morley, G. Tatham, Marriage Wallis, and W. Wilkinson.

**BRIGHTON BENEVOLENT LOAN SOCIETY.**—This society has recently issued its fortieth annual report. We extract the following passage:—'The comparison of this year's proceedings with the last is a favourable one. The profit on the year is £42. 0s. 8d., showing an increase of £11 over the last. The loans have increased by 19 in number, viz. from 545 to 564, and in amount by £242, viz. from £3,286 to £3,528. It is a subject deserving prominent notice, how great is the number of widows enjoying the benefit of this society. In the last year they have amounted to 86, and in the last five years the number assisted was 471, or an average of 94 per annum, a statement which will attract much sympathy for the society. The business before Parliament mentioned in the last year's report, for an extension of the privileges of enrolment for sums from the present limit of £15 up to £30, is in a fair way of accomplishment. Time did not admit of that or the Friendly Societies' Bill of the Government being carried through in the last Session, but the promise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was freely given, that the measure was just, and in the succeeding Session should have the Government support. It is right to mention that the access to the Government obtained in this instance, was mainly due to the ready co-operation of the Charity Organisation Society of London. Officers of Philanthropic Institutions may remember with advantage that that society has the means and the desire to render essential service to all kindred institutions, and is therefore well deserving their notice, and their material support.'

**THE COMMON COUNCIL ON HOUSES FOR WORKING MEN.**—We learn from the *Times* that at the meeting of the Court of Common Council in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House on Thursday last, Mr. Edward Hart proposed a motion to the effect that as the execution of public improvements and other large works in populous places necessarily involved the displacement of a certain number of the working and poorer classes, it was in the opinion of the Court most desirable that the legislation of Parliament which authorised any such improvements or works should also impose the obligation of providing improved dwellings for the industrial poor. The motion gave rise to some discussion. Several members of the Court, on the one hand, pointed out the inherent difficulties in the City of London proper of reinstating the working population resident there after the loss of habitations comparatively near their various occupations, and which were from time to time taken down to make way for public improvements. Mr. T. J. Bedford, a leading member of the Court, on the other hand, argued that the necessity for housing the labouring classes near their work in a great city like London had become the question of the day, and he cited a case within his own personal knowledge, of a man of property, who from purely philanthropic motives had pulled down and rebuilt an old and decaying class of houses in the occupation of working men, with the incidental result of increasing the value of the property to the extent of 6 per cent. The motion of Mr. Hart in the result was adopted.

**ERRATUM.**—In last week's 'Reporter,' page 29, for 'Leeds Council Improvement Society' read 'Leeds Social Improvement Society.'

In fcp. 8vo. Price Two Shillings.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 130.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 10, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The Office of the Strand Committee will be open in future from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

The Stepney and Mile End Old Town Committee will in future hold a second meeting every week—at 11 A.M. on Wednesday. Mile End cases will be considered that day, and Stepney cases as at present, at the meeting on Tuesdays, at 4 P.M.

It is requested that in case of a District Committee addressing an inquiry, in error, to a wrong District Office, the Committee of that office will not only forward the application, but will inform the inquiring Committee to what office it has been sent.

A letter explaining the position of the Corps of Commissionnaires has been recently written by Captain Walter to the Hon. Secretary of one of the District Committees, and it has been deemed desirable to embody the substance of it in the following memorandum:—

The Corps of Commissionnaires is not to be regarded as in any sense a charitable institution. It is an association of independent men of good character, who occupy highly responsible situations, and receive remuneration of such a kind as to place them beyond the need of anything in the nature of charity. It is thus inconsistent with its fundamental principles that any applicant for admission should appear to be dependent upon charity, or to be relying upon testimonials furnished by benevolent societies or individuals. The only question considered is whether the applicant is likely to be a credit to the corps and an acquisition to his comrades, and the chief evidence as to this is sought for in the discharge papers of the regiment in which he has served. In the event of any pensioner entering the corps by the advice or assistance of the Charity Organisation Society, it is particularly requested that no mention may be made of the fact in the Society's reports, or to any official connected with the corps. A 'Quarterly Circular,' containing all particulars, can be obtained by sending a written application to the office of the corps, Exchange Court, 419A Strand.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Sir R. M. Stephenson, Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Captain Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, W. W. Moore, Esq., Major C. C. FitzRoy, Major Sanford, *St. George's*; Captain Elliot, R.N., H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*, Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*, F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Douglas Walker, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill Webber, *Holborn*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, City; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., B. R. Balfour, Esq., *St. Olave's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; G. Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Captain G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., G. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 43. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*; H. Carr, Esq., *Visitor*.

## POWERS OF VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Mr. Wilkinson's letter, asking whether Vice-Presidents who, under Rule 13, are "honorary members, entitled to attend the meetings of the Council, but not to vote," were not entitled to move or second a resolution, was further considered.

Sir Charles Trevelyan pointed out that it was desirable to make Vice-Presidentships as much of a reality as possible. It had been decided not to give them votes, out of regard for the representative character of the Council, but there was no reason why they should not have the power of moving and seconding resolutions, as well as of speaking.

Mr. A. H. Hill was of opinion that the rule took away the right of voting, but no other right.

The Chairman taking the same view, it was agreed that Vice-Presidents should in future be entitled to move and second resolutions.

## PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

Mr. J. R. Hollond called attention to the action recently taken by the Paddington Committee in distributing the pamphlet 'The Doctor's Bill and No Doctor's Bill,' with the addresses of the local Provident Dispensaries pasted on the back of it.

It was suggested that copies of the dialogue should be given at the offices to persons whom the District Committees assisted in sickness.

Miss Collett asked whether any of the Committees knew anything of a Mr. Tattersall, curate to Mr. Coke, vicar of one of the parishes in Bethnal Green, who went about in different districts calling at private houses, asking for subscriptions to buy bread for the poor in Bethnal Green.

It was stated that Mr. Coke systematically raised large sums in this way, and declined to receive assistance from the Metro-



politan Visiting and Relief Association on their usual conditions.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending February 27 the receipts had been £40. 10s. for the General Fund, and £5 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,171. 16s. and £88. 13s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had received a letter from the Whitechapel and St. George's East Committee, stating that they had passed a resolution in favour of forming separate Committees for the two Poor-law divisions at an early date.

#### INQUIRIES INTO CASES.

Major FitzRoy moved that the following Instruction to the Organising Secretary be adopted, on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee:

That in all cases in which a request is received at the Central Office from a person having a residence in London, for inquiry into a case also resident within the metropolitan area, such request shall immediately be forwarded to the office of the District in which the inquirer resides, to be dealt with in the usual manner. Further, that the inquirer be notified of this on a form as follows:—

'Sir (or Madam)—  
'I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of \_\_\_\_\_ regarding \_\_\_\_\_ and have to inform you that your letter has been forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Charity Organisation Committee, in which District you reside. They will make the inquiries as speedily as efficiency will permit, and report the result to you. The address of the office is \_\_\_\_\_'

He had brought forward a very similar motion at the end of 1873, which had been first postponed for six months and then lost by a small majority. He held that his proposal was in accordance with the original plan of the Society, and that the balance of advantage was in favour of sending the request for inquiry back to the office of the District in which the inquirer resided, even when the person inquired about lived in another District. The inquiry would be transmitted to the proper Committee, and the inquirer would be put in communication once for all with the Committee of his own District.

Sir Charles Trevelyan agreed to the course proposed so far as cases of local interest were concerned; cases of general interest should, he thought, be sent to the Central Office; he suggested that the word 'ordinary' should be inserted before 'cases.'

Mr. A. H. Hill had always held that the Central Office should not supersede the branches, but neither should certain branches supersede the rest and be made local centres. He would move as an amendment that the word 'applicant' be substituted for 'inquirer' in line 4 of the recommendation, and 'the applicant resides' for 'you reside' in the proposed form.

Mr. Seton-Karr supported the original recommendation; it would diminish circumlocution and the tendency to centralisation, and would decrease the work at the Central Office.

Mr. Hollond pointed out that the word 'ordinary' was not required, as the only cases inquired into from the Central Office were, first, extra-metropolitan cases, which the recommendation did not touch, and, secondly, special cases inquired into at the request or with the consent of the District Committee concerned.

Mr. Seton-Karr said that his Committee would gladly seek assistance from the Central Office in extra-metropolitan or difficult cases.

After some further discussion, Mr. Hill's amendment was put and lost, 6 voting for it, and the recommendation was adopted by 20 to 3.

#### ESTIMATES OF EXPENSE AND WORK.

Major FitzRoy moved:

That whenever any recommendation is brought up by the Administrative Committee, or any motion is made by an individual, whereby expense will be incurred or additional work thrown upon the Central Office, an exact

estimate of such expense or of such additional work be presented before any such recommendation or motion is discussed; and that such estimate be printed in the *Reporter* along with the notices of business for the ensuing week.

But after some discussion, in which the difficulty of complying with so stringent a rule was pointed out, the motion was negatived by 11 to 5.

#### REPORTS.

It was referred to the Administrative Committee, on Mr. Jodrell's motion, to consider and report as to the expediency of altering the latter part of Information Paper No. 4.

#### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

Sir Alexander Gordon having given precedence to the Rev. H. I. Cummins, Mr. Cummins moved:

That the Proceedings of Council with regard to Voting Charities be removed from the list of the publications of the Society.

He was of opinion that, as another Association had been formed for the express purpose of reforming the Voting Charities, it was unnecessary that the Charity Organisation Society should continue to advertise a pamphlet on the subject. He had often had to state that the Society had only done what it was quite within its proper scope to do, viz. expressed its opinion with regard to a certain system, and then left the matter alone; but he was met by the statement that the paper was still advertised.

After considerable discussion, it being past 6 p.m., the Rev. H. I. Cummins withdrew the motion, stating that he would bring it forward again at a future time.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending March 6, 1875:—*Donations*: Mrs. W. S. Halsey, £2. 2s.; W. Kemble Esq., £10. *Annual*: Lieut.-General Cavenagh, £1. 1s.; Mrs. Ogilvy, £2. 2s.; E. M. Stone, Esq., £5. 5s.; E. Thornton Esq., £2. 2s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: The Earl of Pembroke, £100.

The following business stands for Monday, March 15:—

To consider a recommendation of the Administrative Committee—

'That Mr. Stephen Fuller be appointed a District Committee Visitor and an Additional Member of Council.'

Sir Alexander Gordon to move: 'That the Administrative Committee be requested to consider the work of the Secretary's Department, and report whether any change in the staff is necessary, or any re-distribution of office work between the Secretary and the Organising Secretary.'

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its fifteenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, Colonel Fyers, Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Rev. B. G. Johns, Messrs. T. Clarke, F. Fuller, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, Visitor; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The consideration of Head II. was continued, with reference to improvements in the direction of securing permanent employment for the blind.

The following resolutions were agreed to.

'That in the organisation of blind labour the workers should be principally selected and employed according to their competence for the tasks allotted them, on the ordinary commercial principle.'

'That the workmen in workshops should be under the supervision of competent sighted foremen, and with the assistance of blind fellow-workers.'

The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday, March 17.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Report of the Alford (Canterbury) Poor Relief Association, in union with the Kent Mendicity Society. 1873-4.

Paper on Improved Dwellings, and their beneficial effect on Health and Morals, with Suggestions for their Extension, read at a meeting of the Statistical Society by C. Gatliff, Esq., F.S.S. Harrison & Sons.

A contribution to the History of the Origin of the Charity Organisation Society, by W. M. Wilkinson, Esq. T. Scott, Warwick Court, Holborn.

Report of the Committee of the Charity Voting Reform Association. Offices, 30 Charing Cross, S.W.



DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	1	5	6	12	..	1	3	4	2	..	7	..	9	25	6	2	16
Fulham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	6
Paddington .....	1	..	2	3	..	1	1	2	6	1	4	..	11	16	8	7	..
Chelsea .....	4	..	1	5	..	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	4	12	10	2	1
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	2	3	..	..	..	3	25	6	6	..
Westminster do.	1	..	5	6	..	2	5	7	5	..	1	6	4		..	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	9	10
St. Marylebone .....	3	1	3	7	..	16	3	19	7	1	..	1	9	35	8	8	..
Hampstead .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	4	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	3	1	5	..	3	1	4	..	..	1	1	1	10	3	7	2
South St. Pancras .....	2	4	5	11	..	2	3	5	..	..	1	1	1	17	3	4	..
Islington .....	5	1	1	7	1	1	1	3	5	..	..	..	5	15	12	6	3
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	..
Strand .....	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..
Holborn .....	1	..	3	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	5	1	17	2
City .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	12	2
Shoreditch .....	1	1	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	6	..	4	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	4	2	4	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	4	4	7	15	..	4	2	6	..	2	..	2	2	23	37	4	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	2	..	6	8	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	11	13	2	..
Poplar .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	3	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	..	3	4	1	3	..	4	1	1	..	2	4	12	3	4	..
Newington .....	2	..	4	6	..	2	1	3	5	..	2	..	7	16	5	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	..	5	5	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	1	1	10	..	2	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	..	3	3	..	2	..	2	3	..	..	3	3	11	..	4	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..		3	2	2
Wandsworth & Putney	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	2	1	7
Battersea .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	5	8	..	1	1
Clapham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	..	16	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	2	2	..	4	..	4	3	..	..	3	3	16	..	1	..
Peckham .....	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	..		..	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	4	..	12	..
Deptford .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	5	5	1	9
Woolwich .....	3	1	..	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	4	..
Lewisham .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	4	9	10	6	1	29
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	6	7	..	1	1
Totals .....	34	27	80	141	5	51	23	79	64	16	18	14	112	332	151	122	148

OMISSION.—The return of the Lewisham Committee for the week ending February 27, having been inadvertently omitted from the last number of the Reporter, has added to the return for the week ending March 6, which appears above.

COMING MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the North St. Pancras and Highgate Charity Organisation Committee will be held in the Theatre of the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution, South Grove, Highgate, on Monday, March 15, at 8 P.M., Colonel Wilkinson in the chair.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of February 1875 was 36,799, and 61,527 received out-door relief, making a total of 98,326. This is a decrease of 25 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 10,512, 21,183, and 23,648 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 438. This is a decrease of 1 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 188 on the corresponding day of last year.

THE ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN BIRMINGHAM.

The report of the annual meeting of the Edgbaston Charity Organisation and Mendicity Society, says the Birmingham Daily Gazette, will be read with special interest by those really benevolent persons who, while desirous of putting a stop to the practices of begging impostors, wish also to guard against the too frequent neglect of the deserving poor. The society was formed some eight or nine years ago, and in the first instance only aimed

at ridding the district of Edgbaston of the professional beggars with which that 'West End' suburb was infested; but it has since—mainly, no doubt, through the plan adopted by the Committee of having each case thoroughly investigated by a competent and experienced officer—extended its operations so as to deal with some of those cases of honest poverty which shrink from the idea of pauperism, but which, without parish relief or the aid of some such society as this, would inevitably become 'workhouse cases,' except where the poor creatures literally perish for lack of assistance. In this way the society has done a good work, and one of which it may justifiably be proud. Its reports from year to year amply attest its utility, and at the same time show the urgent need there is for its existence. Seeing, however, that it has been of such great benefit, it is a pity that its operations have hitherto been so limited, and that the machinery for the management of its modest funds, though conducted on the most economic principles, seems disproportionate to the whole sum collected. We are therefore glad that an important step in the right direction was taken yesterday in expunging that portion of one of the rules by which the subscriptions were restricted to the parish of Edgbaston. It will naturally follow that the operations of the society will not be confined to that locality, but will also be extended till, it may be hoped, they will cover the whole town. If such should be the case, there can be no question that in a place like Birmingham, where benevolence 'grows with its growth,' a much larger fund will be raised, and much less proportionate cost be involved in its administration. The various parochial organisations no doubt perform a large amount of this kind of work, but there is still a wide field left for the operations of the Mendicity Society.

THE INDIGENT BLIND VISITING SOCIETY.—The following statement is being circulated by this society with reference to proceedings at the Clerkenwell Police Court. On Friday, February 5th, Mr. James Colmer, of 48 Hunter Street, W.C., was summoned by Mr. William Colmer, the secretary of the Indigent Blind Visiting Society, to answer a complaint of having unlawfully and maliciously published a certain defamatory libel against the committee of that society, knowing the same to be false. Mr. Metcalfe, Q.C., and Mr. W. A. Clark attended for the prosecution, and Mr. Humphreys, solicitor, for the defence. Mr. Metcalfe, in opening the case for the complainants, stated that he was instructed on behalf of the Indigent Blind Visiting Society, or rather the committee of that society, to substantiate a charge of libel against the defendant. The society had been in existence for the last forty years, and had had the support of many influential persons. He held in his hand the last annual report of the society, which was issued by the committee, which showed that in March 1874 there was a balance at the bankers of about £200; but this sum had since then been absorbed, and the society had been compelled to borrow money from Dr. Armitage, who is a very active member of the committee. At Christmas, the society, as usual, made an appeal to the public, which he would read and lay before the Court. In the early part of last year, the committee had received notice that a society had been started under the name of the 'Indigent Blind Relief Society,' with a secretary whose name was Colmer. The title of this society was afterwards changed to the 'Blind Poor Relief Society.' The secretary of this commenced sending circulars, appeals, and letters to subscribers to the old society, and many were misled and sent sums intended for the old society to Hunter Street. Soon after Christmas last, it was discovered that circulars were being distributed very largely among the committee and subscribers to the Indigent Blind Visiting Society, which contained the libel complained of. Mr. Metcalfe then read the circular, bearing date 28th of December 1874, and two letters which had been written to the Rev. J. Strickland. Dr. Armitage was then called and examined, but before his examination had proceeded far Mr. Humphreys interposed, and a conference took place between him and the counsel for the prosecution, and after a short conversation with his client, Mr. Humphreys, on behalf, and by authority of the defendant, expressed his regret at the publication of the circular, and admitted that the statements therein contained were unfounded, having been made by defendant hastily, and under feelings of irritation, and that on further inquiry he was satisfied there was no ground for them; that the society was properly conducted, and its funds duly administered; and that no shadow of blame rested upon the committee or any member of it. The defendant accordingly retracted his statements and apologised for them, and pledged himself never again to annoy or defame the committee or do anything to injure the society. The summons was therefore withdrawn by the prosecution. Mr. Cooke, the magistrate, turning to Mr. Humphreys, said 'I may say, now that the case is at an end, that in my opinion the circular would have required the most overwhelming justification.'

POOR LAW RELIEF AND VOLUNTARY CHARITY.—We take the following extract from Mr. Andrew Doyle's Introduction to the volume on Poor Laws in Foreign Countries, recently printed by the Local Government Board:— 'The results of the Danish system of poor relief, as indeed of nearly all the countries to which these reports refer, must be sought, in the opinions of competent observers, in the direction and changes of poor-law legislation



and in the condition of the class of people who are directly affected by it, rather than in the numbers who are alleged to be in receipt of relief or of the sums assumed to be expended in their maintenance. "As no returns of paupers are transmitted from country parishes," Mr. Strachey remarks, "or towns to any central department, the number of persons in Denmark receiving public relief can only be indirectly, perhaps partially, ascertained." That the rate of pauperism and of expenditure is very high may be inferred from the opinions already quoted, and from the general dissatisfaction with which the administration of the poor law appears to have been regarded, and which led in 1869 to the appointment by the Crown of a Commission composed of large landowners, officials, and professional men. The conclusions come to by this Commission, and the nature of the reforms that they recommend, indicate the defects of the law and of its administration in Denmark as clearly as did the report of our own Royal Commission indicate the same results in England in 1834. Mr. Strachey thus briefly sums up the general conclusions of the Commission: "The duties of society to the pauper, it is observed, are not exhausted by the mere grant of material assistance; besides money and money's worth the needy man requires advice and moral support. To take proper effect, aid should be bestowed with accurate attention to times, individuals, degrees. The relief granted through an official public agency does not fulfil these conditions, being mechanical and careless in its application. In Copenhagen, e.g., says the report, it has not been found possible to carry out the existing rules for pauper relief. These are based on right principles, but they assume for their exercise an acquaintance with individual character, means, and circumstances which the relieving officials do not possess. The overseers do not classify and discriminate; glad to escape the odium which attaches to a too scrutinising distribution of the public bounty, or from accusations and suspicions of partiality, they fall into habits of blind and wholesale benevolence." This passage describes with great clearness some of the more striking defects of every poor-law system the administration of which is a compromise between voluntary charity and the relief of pauperism. A machinery of investigation and of administering relief which in a general and rough way may be regarded as sufficient for one object, if confined to that, is wholly unsuited to and insufficient for the purpose to which it is more generally applied. The remedy that is suggested by the Danish Commission is one that is theoretically recognised in many foreign systems, and of which for the first time in our history there appears to be a reasonable hope of recognition in England. That which the Charity Organisation Society is so earnestly endeavouring to do by voluntary agency in this country the Commission recommends to be done by legislation in Denmark. It suggests "the complete separation, by legislative enactment, of public and private charitable functions; the literal restriction of public relief to such individuals as are actually unable to work, that is to say, to children, aged and weak persons. Settlement to depend no longer on domicile, but exclusively on birthplace. The present territorial and administrative arrangements to be maintained. A large development to be given to the workhouse system. Outdoor relief to be sparingly allowed. Foreigners who have not been naturalised to have no claim on the parish. Casual foreign paupers to receive temporary local relief. The Committee further recommend that the official system be supported by the organisation, under legislative sanction of general voluntary relief. The financial basis of this would consist in the voluntary contributions of the charitably disposed, in certain donations which may with propriety be attributed to this object, and in the resources of the parish poor chests (previously described), augmented by certain small fees and fines. Management to be by an elective board. No charity to be dispensed to the recipients of public relief. Investigation of cases to be personal and severe; money to be given in exceptional instances only."

**THE ARTISANS' DWELLINGS BILL.**—At a meeting of the Social Science Association, with reference to this Bill, Mr. Godwin said:—For his own part, he had the strongest wish to render the Bill a good one and to help it forward. There were sites in all our large towns, sites in London, which were the hotbeds of disease, immorality, and death, and where circumstances made the interference of individuals or of societies unlikely, if not impossible. He would take, for example, the courts and alleys behind Drury Lane and Gray's Inn Lane, or that extraordinary and frightful part of London—the Golden Lane district. Nothing could be done with these as a building speculation, but with such powers as those given by the Bill they might soon be made to present a better form. There was one district in the City, it occurred to him to say, where improvement might possibly be effected without loss as a building speculation, even under present powers; he alluded to a remarkable congeries of courts bounded by Lothbury on the south and Moorgate Street on the west. Assisted by this Bill, a wonderful change could certainly be easily effected there. Knocking down a poor neighbourhood and putting up better houses had not usually been found profitable in a pecuniary point of view. Much of this, however, had resulted from obstacles thrown in the way, which might be got rid of under a proper Act of Parliament. But if these improvements did cost money, the money would be well spent, and in due time would bring back a good return.—*Builder.*

### Publications of the Charity Organisation Society,

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 131.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1875.

DOUBLE NUMBER, PRICE 2d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Sub-Committee appointed on February 5 'to consider and report on the Reports of the District Committee Visitors, and the Organising and Assistant Organising Secretaries on visits to the District Offices, with a view to strengthening and consolidating the Society's work in the several districts of the Metropolis,' will be glad to see any Hon. Secretaries of District Committees as Visitors at its meetings. It meets on Fridays at 11, but will adjourn from the 19th instant to April 9.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Holland, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Captain Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major L. Prendergast, Major Sanford, W. W. Wright, Esq., Major C. C. FitzRoy, *St. George's*; Captain Elliot, R.N., H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster Union (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., *St. Marylebone*; Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Hamilton Hay Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, H. A. Herbert, Esq., *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., *Bethnal Green*; Russell H. Barrington, Esq., *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney and Mile End Old Town*; T. B. Montgomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; G. Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Captain G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., H. Reid, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., G. Blount, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 39. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*; Miss Edwards, Edgar Hyde, Esq., *Visitors*.

A letter was read from Capt. Walter, pointing out the mischief which cannot fail to arise from giving charitable assistance in money to pensioners.

All those who are in good health are perfectly able to earn a good living, and, as regards those who are suffering from the effects of service, &c., it is the duty of the State to look after them, and charitable gentlemen had better expend their money and energy in compelling the War Office to do its duty than in attempting to stand in its place.

Bad as the public-houses are, they do not do me so much mischief as charitable people, who ruin the self-respect and energy of those who but for the assistance of charitable persons would be compelled to work. No disease is so infectious or so destructive to the constitution as the habit of living on the industry of others.

The Secretary reported that a difficulty had arisen with regard to preparing some of the new Books and Forms, and that it had not yet been found possible to send out the sample-sheets.

Also that five letters for the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution had been received.

## CASES.

A letter was read from the Whitechapel Committee, asking if anything was known of a Mrs. Channon, aged about 35, who was going about London with a sick child aged about 8, and who appeared for some years past to have been more or less dependent on charity and charitable 'homes.'

It was stated that Amelia Channon, or Shannon, was known to the Islington and Wandsworth Committees, as well as at the Central Office.

A letter was read from the St. Saviour's Committee, calling attention to the case of a Mrs. Gauster, or Jeuster, whose husband was in prison, and who they believed to be applying in various quarters for assistance, especially in Roman Catholic circles. The circumstances of the case were known to the St. Saviour's Committee, and they could not recommend it.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending March 6 the receipts had been £22. 12s. for the General Fund, and £100 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,183. 17s. 10d. and £188. 13s. 9d. respectively.

That they had resolved not to insert paid advertisements of charitable institutions in the *Reporter*.

And that they had expressed their approval of a proposed alteration of boundary between the St. Saviour's and Newington Committees, as both Committees were in one Poor-law division, and no departure from Poor-law boundaries would be required.

## MR. FRANCIS PEEK'S OFFER.

A draft of the proposed arrangement with Mr. Peek in regard to his offer of February 24th was sent up by the Administrative Committee, in pursuance of a reference made to them at the last meeting.

It will be remembered that Mr. Peek offers to give £1,000 a-year for three years to the Society if it will co-operate with



the members of the School Board so far as to investigate the causes of the distress brought to light by their visitors, and to assist a certain class of cases which may be described as those of deserving persons whose cases can be permanently benefited by temporary aid.

The draft pointed out that it was already the duty of the District Committees to inquire into all cases of alleged distress to which their attention might be called, and to deal with those to the best of their judgment and ability. Mr. Peek asked for no action different from that which the Society ordinarily pursued, but desired to increase the ability of the Committees in the poorer districts to deal with such cases as the School Board authorities might refer to them. The contribution would be treated as a separate fund, and would be divided amongst the District Committees on application by them in proportion to the extra expenses to which co-operation with the School Board might put them.

It was stated that Mr. Peek did not wish any special action taken in the way of paying school fees, nor any inquiries made with reference to the question of payment or remission by the School Board, and that the District Committees would not be expected to relieve such cases as seemed to them more suitable for the Poor-law or a local charity.

The draft was considered in detail and agreed to. It was ordered that it should be sent to Mr. Peek for his approval, with a view to its transmission subsequently to the District Committees.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE VISITOR.

Mr. Stephen Fuller was appointed a District Committee Visitor and an Additional Member of Council, on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee.

A letter from Mr. Fuller was read in which he said that his wish was to visit the various Committees, and if there were any particular work worthy of imitation carried out in any one of them to recommend it to the notice of the others.

#### THE SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

It was resolved, on Sir Alexander Gordon's motion—

That the Administrative Committee be requested to consider the work of the Secretary's Department, and report whether any change in the staff is necessary, or any re-distribution of office work between the Secretary and the Organising Secretary.

The subject was ordered to be set down on the Agenda Paper for Thursday.

The following contributions were received during the week ending March 6, 1875:—*Donations*: S. Bidwell, Esq., £5. 5s.; Captain F. A. Boyce, £5. 5s.; Miss Burgoyne, £5; J. M. Corrie, Esq., £3. 3s.; C. Darwin, Esq., £1; The Earl of Derby, £10; The Lord Hatherley, £25; G. Hawkins, Esq., £1. 1s.; J. Noble, Esq., £50; W. H. Potter, Esq., £1. 1s.; T. Godolphin Rooper, Esq., £5; Rev. J. J. Thornley, 2s. 6d. *Annual*: Rev. C. T. Ackland, £1. 1s.; Miss D'Oyly, £5; W. Henty, Esq., £1. 1s.; J. C. Sharpe, Esq., £2. 2s.; Sir Harry Verney, Bart., £2. 2s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: The Lord Hatherley, £25.

The following business stands for Monday, March 22:—

To consider a recommendation of the Administrative Committee—

'That the sum of £37. 10s. be again granted to the East London Financial Committee as salary for a Collector for six months.'

Mr. R. H. Barrington to move: 'That it is desirable that the Supervision Sub-Committee be discontinued.'

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill to call attention to the Report of the Sub-Committee on Employment, and to make suggestions as to the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of March 1875 was 36,785, and 61,596 received out-door relief, making a total of 98,381. This is an increase of 55 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,853, 22,107, and 22,979 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 409. This is a decrease of 28 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 158 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.			
Kensington .....	11	7	4	22	6	1	2	..	..	2	31	20	1
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3
Paddington .....	1	1	2	4	..	..	5	1	5	11	15	14	8
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	4	9	3
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. George's Division ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	4	21	10	11
Westminster do. ..	..	1	2	3	2	4	5	2	..	7	1	..	..
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	..	1	2	3	..	1	1	..	..	1	5	..	4
St. Marylebone .....	5	..	5	10	5	3	6	2	1	9	27	15	9
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
South St. Pancras ....	2	4	9	15	..	5	..	1	..	1	21	12	3
Islington .....	2	1	..	3	3	1	..	..	..	..	7	12	5
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	..	2	2	4	..	..	1	1	..	2	6	2	3
Strand .....	..	1	2	3	1	1	..	1	..	1	6	7	5
Holborn .....	..	..	5	5	1	1	2	1	..	3	9	2	12
*City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shoreditch .....	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	1	..	2	6	..	2
Bethnal Green .....	1	..	..	1	3	1	1	..	..	1	8	3	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East ..	5	1	2	8	2	1	..	..	..	11	5	..	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	..	1	2	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	2	4
Poplar .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	4
St. Saviour's .....	1	..	2	3	3	1	3	..	3	10	3	3	..
Newington .....	..	2	2	..	5	5	3	..	1	4	11	..	2
St. Olave's .....	1	..	1	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	4	1	3
Lambeth:— { North ..	..	2	5	7	1	1	6	..	..	6	17	4	3
{ South ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	3
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	4	5
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	1
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	3	2	9
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grove Lane .....	..	2	2	..	1	1	2	..	..	2	9	2	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	2
Greenwich .....	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	7	1	6
Deptford .....	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	..	..	3	4	2	2
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	3	6	18
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Sydenham .....	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	3	1	7
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>147</b>

\* No returns received from this Committees at time of going to press.

**CORRECTION.**—The St. Olave's Committee find that their return of cases for the week ending March 6 should have stood as follows:—'Dismissed as ineligible 1,' 'Recommended to local agencies 3,' and not 'Dismissed 5,' 'Recommended 4.'

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Eighth Annual Report of the Halifax (Nova Scotia) Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

Der Erste Europäische Blindenlehrer Congress in Wien, 1873. Protokollarischer Bericht.

Blinden Institut auf der hohen Warte bei Wien. Gegründet von Ludw. Aug. Frankl, 1870.

On the Relation of the Blind to the World around them. By J. W. Klein. Extracted from 'Die Anstalten für Blinden in Wien,' translated by the Rev. William Taylor. 1859.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting was held in Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on the 10th inst., the Right Honorable Lord Hatherley presiding. The attendance was very large, and among those present on the platform were Lord Napier and Ettrick, the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., Sir Charles Trevelyan, the Dean of Winchester, Bishop Beckles, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, the Rev. A. T. Ross, the Rev. W. G. Lewis, General Sir R. Wilbraham, General Sir Alexander Gordon, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Q.C., the Hon. C. W. Fremantle, General Bainbridge, and General Cavenagh.

The Secretary read letters regretting inability to attend from the Bishop of London, President of the Society; the Duke of Westminster, Mr. Baron Pollock, the Bishop of Manchester, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, and Sir John Kennaway. He stated that Lord Lichfield, Chairman of the Com-



mittee, was absent abroad, and that Sir Sydney Waterlow and Mr. Ernest Noel, who had hoped to be able to attend, were detained by the debate in the House of Commons on the Law of Hypothec.

The noble Chairman said that it was right that a Society like this should, from year to year, give some account of the amount of assistance it had met with, and some explanation to those who were not aware of what the Society was endeavouring to achieve. The object of the Society was indicated by its name. It was a Society for organising charity, not as some people seemed to think, for suppressing it. The necessity of organisation in all things was apparent to all, and organisation was the very reverse of annihilation. An army was the familiar instance of organisation; without organisation that army would be merely an armed mob, more dangerous to its friends than formidable to its foes, and it was needful for Organised Charity to go forth as an army to stem the advance of those floods of evil which, in all large communities, would be found to be constantly recurring. Here in the metropolis, wherever one placed himself with a charitable purpose, he would always find abundance of matter on which to operate. The total number of fellow-creatures within the confines of London made up a sum of about 4,000,000—a number greater than that of the inhabitants of all Scotland, and a population larger than that of some Continental kingdoms. This large population, like all populations, found itself divided into many classes, and of these classes a large proportion would be found under the necessity of struggling hard for an existence. It was a matter of the greatest importance how to keep the working population from falling from their position—from that station of honest labour in which they were able to support themselves and their belongings—a position in which their labour gave them rank as honoured members of society. (Hear.) The skilled labourers were generally able to hold their own; but below the skilled labourers were classes who stood upon the very verge of difficulty, and those difficulties, if they were rightly and wisely aided at the proper time, might be successfully overcome; properly administered charity would enable families to overcome the pressure of temporary calamity, and to rise again; but if those people, thus reduced, were driven by the want of succour well administered, into the ranks of those who lived by charity, then the task of endeavouring to raise them was almost hopeless. (Hear, hear.) People who were in what would prove to be temporary difficulties if there were a general organisation of charitable relief, fell from time to time into that sadly depressed class whom it was an almost hopeless task to endeavour to raise. (Hear.) Some classes of the working people of this metropolis were, it should be remembered, earning wages which were only just sufficient to keep them; some earned an amount which would barely enable them to keep themselves, and when some misfortune came, illness or some other calamity, they were overwhelmed. Such unlooked for calamities might be instanced as those which occurred in the mining districts, causing deaths of bread-winners, or that of the inundation in South London through the rising of the Thames, causing misery and distress by the destruction of the homes of the poor and the loss of their property. Thus there were many fitting and proper objects of charity constantly arising; and besides those thus arising, there were widows made poor by the deaths of those upon whom they depended, orphans reduced to dependence on charity by the deaths of their parents, the temporarily sick and the permanent sick, the blind, the deaf and dumb. To deal with, and to organise the means of dealing with all these necessitous classes presented work sufficient for the Society without its entering upon that which it had been suggested was its work—the unholy enterprise of ‘Repressing Charity.’ (Cheers.) The sources of charity, ever since the foundation of Christianity, had been perennial, and must be so, for charity was of divine institution, and there were ever ready those who would fill the vessels of the poor as the prophet filled with oil the vessels of the widow; but the charitable were not always able to act with knowledge of the cases presented to them, and thus to make the most of those means of which they were the stewards. And what the Charity Organisation Society desired to do was, not to dam up the sources of charity, but to direct them into those channels from which they might beneficially irrigate and fertilise the vast fields around, instead of being diverted into foul channels and dismal swamps, ending in the workhouse, the jail, and the madhouse. (Cheers.) That was the real object of the Charity Organisation Society, and anyone who had looked into the condition of this city, or who had lived there, as he had done, for half a century, must have found, as he had, the difficulty of relieving the necessitous and suffering. (Hear.) Sometimes the giver endeavoured to ascertain, before he gave his alms, something about the person who sought his charity, and the answer would be, if the question were asked in Westminster, that the persons asked lived in Marylebone. (A laugh.) The charitable who made inquiries themselves, even if those who begged lived in their district, were frequently deceived. So great had been the need of assistance in inquiry that some of his friends combined with him to have an agent of their own to inquire into the cases of applicants who came to them. Sometimes the agent found that several of those who had combined to employ her had been applied to the same persons. Thus this organisation of charity showed them, what it would have been impossible for them to have found out otherwise than by organisation, that the persons they relieved were rapidly

brought or led to the worst form of mendicity. (Hear, hear.) He had thus been led to think how the forces of the charitable could best be organised, and he begged them not to forget that while they had the Divine command to give, that command was not that they were to give without order, and order meant inquiry; for it was also ruled that whoso would not work, neither should he eat. (Cheers.) All that the Saviour and the Apostles did was done in order, that was, in thorough organisation. There was the organisation for preaching the Gospel, organisation for missions, organisation for feeding the hungry; in fact, this order or organisation was an emanation from that vast Divine law ‘which ordereth all things.’ (Cheers.) Now, what was this Society doing? This Society, seeing the innumerable channels of charity, was formed on the basis of having district agencies and a Central Council, through whom information regarding charities and persons applying for relief might be acquired by individuals. He could give an instance which occurred only the other day. He had an application of a distressing character from a person living at Wandsworth. The story looked true; but he could not inquire himself. He was not even aware in what district the street was, and he referred the case to the Charity Organisation Society, who at once obtained information, which was complete and satisfactory, through those capable of acquiring it. (Hear.) That was the mode in which the Society worked, and a very simple mode it was; and when it was known that the Society had thirty-five district committees, corresponding, for the most part, with the areas of the Poor-law administration, it would be seen that the Society was an agency which could touch all parts of London, and say whether an applicant can be best served by means of this or that charitable institution, whether or not it would be proper to relieve him in this way or that way. The central body could communicate with the district committees to ask if a particular applicant was in temporary distress, such as could be relieved, or was a mere fraudulent beggar. It could communicate with the Poor-law authorities, and inquire whether the persons who applied for charitable aid had come under, or were not under, the Poor-laws. This knowledge was necessary in dealing with the cases which arose; and what the Society most desired was that it should be assisted by the public generally making use of the information now within reach, and especially by charitable institutions making use of the information which could be given them, to aid them in the proper distribution of their funds. This work of the Society tended to increase charity—to increase it properly and wisely, and in nowise to its diminution. (Hear, hear.) The next thing which the Society did from time to time was to investigate, on behalf of large institutions, the cases applying for relief, to see how far those institutions might be themselves justified in pursuing the object they had in view. The Society did not intrude assistance or advice, but gave these when asked for information; and it had acquired, in the course of its six years of operations, a vast amount of information respecting English and foreign charitable institutions. It would be seen by the Report that the Society had been asked to investigate the cases for out-door treatment at the Royal Free Hospital, where all comers were received without tickets, and the object of the inquiry was to see if the people who came for gratuitous advice and medicine had or had not the means of paying for what they thus took from charity. The inquiry took place with reference to about 640 of these patients, and of these nearly one-half, 49 per cent., were found to be cases which should never have applied to such a charity. (Hear, hear.) He did not say that these persons had money in their pockets at the moment sufficient to pay for what they took from charity, though, if they had not, it was, perhaps, because those funds had been applied in making them ill—(A laugh)—but it was found that all these were cases of persons who might have applied weekly payments to a provident dispensary, by which they might not only have had the advantage of medical advice and medicine, but the immense advantage of feeling that they had preserved their independence. (Hear, hear.) He knew instances of imposture arising by means of charities which it would be thought would be the least likely to be abused. Hospital tickets were taken from door to door as a means of begging. And another result of indiscriminate charity had happened within his own knowledge. Some winters ago the weather was very severe, and some persons were believed to have met their deaths through exposure to it. This shocked the public mind, and public subscriptions were at once forthcoming to institute refuges for all who asked for food and shelter. No questions were put, and all about the streets were taken in, lodged, and had food. The numbers increased rapidly, 400 and 500 a-night came; and after breakfast, which most of them had—though some went off without it—they were turned out into the streets again without any questioning. There was an amazing increase and pressure of distress at this time upon the hands of the Mendicity Society, in Red Lion Square, and then it was found that these so-called ‘homeless’ people came up from country districts adjacent to the East End of the metropolis, attracted by indiscriminate charity, and after breakfasting in the refuges went off to dine in Red Lion Square. (A laugh.) Before he was aware of these facts he invited one of the most active clergymen in Westminster to consider this matter; for, he thought, if this great distress existed at the East End, there surely would be a great deal of similar want in Westminster. The clergyman had more experience than himself, and inquired of the police, who stated that in the whole of Westminster



there had only been two persons found in the streets in several weeks without a shelter, and that the crowds at the East End refuges were the result of the course of proceeding adopted there. (Hear, hear.) These instances would show the necessity of learning what each charitable person and society were doing, what was necessary to be done, what was being done, and in what way charitable funds should be applied so as to really go to the relief of those who needed them. (Hear, hear.) Communication and co-operation between givers—societies and individuals—must have a good effect; and having seen much good result from co-operation between charities and the Poor-law, he hoped to see it still further extended. (Cheers.) The Charity Organisation Society was on very friendly terms with the Poor-law authorities, and the evidence of the good work done in this way so far was mentioned in the Local Government Board's last report, which made special reference to the work done by Miss Octavia Hill and Colonel Gardiner; and both Mr. Longley and Mr. Doyle had spoken of the work in their reports. (Hear, hear.) This work was, he was happy to say, making satisfactory progress, and he asked the public to assist in it. The great want was the want of volunteers to carry out the work to a successful issue. The Society was but in the sixth year of its existence. Those connected with it did not set up as professors of political economy, or desire to teach the public, *ex cathedra*, how to manage their charitable affairs; but they asked the public to be fellow-inquirers with them into the pursuit of that true method which they were yet investigating, and which they did not pretend they had yet reached. (Cheers.) The Society wanted, in each of the thirty-five districts of London, the hearty co-operation of those who could afford information, or of those who would ask for information, or to make use of the Society; for its only justification was its usefulness, and when it was no longer useful it could not expect to exist. (Hear, hear.) Before proceeding to urge the last point in his mind—that was, the claim of the Society for receiving aid in carrying on its work—he should like to point out some other agencies which seemed to him to be helpful in the particular objects this Society had before it. The one great evil which lay at the root of the present ill condition of the lower stratum of society was the condition of the dwellings of the poor. (Cheers.) It was unreasonable to expect that those who were brought up where they could have no possible means of learning and practising order and cleanliness, or of knowing what comfort was, could turn out clean or orderly. There was a constant neglect, even of the common decencies of life, in these 'homes.' Let them consider what would be the effect of such homes upon the poor girls brought up in these places, and yet these girls were to be the mothers of the next generation. While these homes continued it would be impossible for a large portion of the population ever to be brought up in a way that would insure their becoming reputable members of society. The meeting was not called now to consider that point, however,—most probably they would hear something about it from Sir Sydney Waterlow, who, it was to be hoped, would be present before the meeting was over. (Cheers.) Another means of doing good which had sprung up was the Provident Knowledge Society; and no one who had seen the want of thrift in the households, and the wasteful and improper expenditure, could doubt that this Provident Knowledge Society would be of vast utility. (Hear.) Then there was the Provident Knowledge Society's Bank, which did not tempt people and bribe them to make small savings by giving exorbitant interest, and pay them out their savings once a year; but proposed, he believed, not to give any interest at all, and urged the people to continue to save at the end of the year, as at other times. A difficult question which the Charity Organisation Society had dealt with was that of loans; and the Society wisely, instead of pauperising those who were temporarily depressed by giving small doles, endeavoured to raise them up by lending them a few pounds to recover tools, for instance, pledged in a time of sickness, and the people thus assisted were enabled again to commence the labour of life. (Cheers.) There had been such success with these loans, that on the total of £700 or £800 lent by one committee, the loss had not been more than one per cent. (Hear.) Even in an East End district of London (Shoreditch), of £108 lent, only 18s. had been lost 'by the partial failure of the experiment in three cases.' He ought to mention the Parochial Women's Fund as one of the means of teaching the people to help themselves. This fund did not give money, but collected it for those who could be induced to save, that they might lay it out in useful articles for the home and person. (Cheers.) This Society had thus been enabled to collect £13,000 in one year from the very poor in small dribblets. (Cheers.) He would have desired to lay before the meeting other facts brought out by the Charity Organisation Society's operations, but some of those were manifest to all who lived or had lived in London. (Cheers.) No one could walk through the streets without being struck by the almost total absence of mendicity, and he claimed for the Charity Organisation Society a considerable share in bringing that about, for of all the means of fostering mendicity, sorrow, and sin there was no more efficient means than by giving money to those who had not earned it, and giving it without inquiry, or without ascertaining whether it was by vice or misfortune the applicant had become distressed. (Hear, hear.) It was doing a person a wrong to give him or her money which had not been earned, and he trusted that the efforts the Society had made to show the extent of that wrong would

meet with public approbation. The fact that the idle did not like the Society was a proof of its beneficial character, and he knew of several amusing instances of the manner in which that dislike had been expressed. A lady a short time ago gave a person a ticket, and the applicant replied, 'That's a very bad society; they get everything out about you, and then they use it against you.' (A laugh.) It was not a bad description of the treatment of those who deserved to be so treated. Of course the applicant did not stop to think that what was 'got out' about her must have been something which could not be used for her. The Society, he might add, though it did not undertake to give aid and relief itself, yet did so; and more than that, he would not have the meeting go away with the notion that the Society took upon itself to be so rigid that it would not relieve or listen to any undeserving persons. 'If we all had our deserts who should escape whipping?' It desired to raise men from the ground when it was possible to do so; and though men might have fallen through their own bad conduct, yet, if there was hope in them, the Society did not desert them, but did what could be done to provide them with some situation in which they could prove that the confidence and trust reposed in them had not been misplaced. (Cheers.) He trusted that the Charity Organisation Society, being an instrument not for controlling charity but for regulating and economising it, would be enabled to complete its work, and he desired the public, on their part, to be good enough to undertake the task of co-operating in the work. (Hear.) If anyone desired to know how that might be done, they might learn something from the Report of the branch in Marylebone. For that district of Marylebone there were 19 medical charities and 49 other general charities, and the Society there was in full and harmonious co-operation with those who administered the Poor-law. (Cheers.) Let those present see if they could not do something to favour and develop the Society, and he ventured to say that those who were strong, and able, not only to distribute their money in alms but to give their time to the Society by being fellow-labourers with those who had carried it on for these six years, would have more comfort in their charitable work, in the relief they afforded to their suffering fellow creatures, than in almost any other work they could do. (Loud cheers.)

The Report was taken as read, having been distributed among the audience.

Lord Napier and Ettrick said that he had been entrusted with the duty of moving the adoption of the Sixth Annual Report, but he did not intend to enter upon a detailed exposition of the statements which it embodied. The noble and learned Chairman, in his interesting address, had already anticipated some of the remarks which he might have made, and there were others to speak who had special knowledge of several of the subjects submitted for consideration. He would, however, allude to some topics which appeared to be reserved for his treatment; and first he would call attention to the position, the functions, and the claims of the District Committees. These bodies, thirty-five in number, were at once the source and the instruments of the central authority, and were the most important agents in the practical duties of the Society. Their activity was proved by the fact stated in the Report, that more than 12,000 cases of alleged destitution had been examined in the course of last year; and if this number was not so large as the number reported on a previous occasion, it was not owing to any relaxation in the exertions of the Committees, but to the greater prosperity of the community, which produced fewer cases for inquiry. But this was not all. The duty of the Committees was not only to work—it was their business to inspire confidence in the public, in the authorities, in the societies with which they desired to co-operate, in individuals devoted to philanthropic enterprise. It would be found in the Report that the Society, working through its Committees, stood in friendly and useful relations to the Boards of Guardians; their good offices had been claimed, as the noble and learned Chairman had stated, by one of the principal hospitals of the metropolis, and he trusted that they might be brought into profitable contact with the operations of the London School-board. Acting, as he did, on one of the Divisional Committees of the School-board, he heard from time to time the most distressing statements on the part of those who withheld their children from attendance at school; he had a painful sense of the difficulty of sifting those statements to the bottom, and often wished that he had an officer of the Society at his elbow to ascertain the truth. The same impression appeared to have been entertained by a member of the School-board distinguished for his philanthropy and good works, Mr. Francis Peek. This gentleman had made a communication to the Society with a view to the investigation of cases brought before the School-board, and had offered to place at the disposal of the Society in the prosecution of this duty the sum of £1,000 during three successive years. The Council were now in communication with Mr. Peek for the purpose of defining the methods by which his benevolent intentions might be carried into effect. If due regard was had to these facts, and others detailed in the Report, he was justified in affirming that the District Committees were both industrious and judicious—that they consulted the best interests of the poor, and possessed the confidence and sympathy of the charitable agencies. How much money the District Committees raised in their several spheres of exertion did not appear in the Report, but he hazarded little in stating that £15,000 had



been received, of which two-fifths approximately were employed in maintaining the machinery of the Society. It had been objected in some quarters that the expense of organisation and agency was very great in proportion to the amount of money actually laid out in relief—the amount spent in relief being by some assumed to be the test and index of the amount of good done. But this view was founded in an erroneous view of the nature and functions of the Society. The capital duty of the Society lay in inquiry, consultation, and the circulation of knowledge; and he might almost affirm, that if the Society could attain its ideal, the perfect constitution at which it aimed, the whole of its expenditure would be on machinery and nothing would be given in simple relief. It was, indeed, impossible that a Society which sought for information, which accumulated and registered information, and which made that information accessible to the public, could exist without offices and agents—without an expensive form of material and moral organisation. Far from desiring to conceal this feature in their constitution, the Society avowed it. They were, however, not the less solicitous to obtain the gratuitous assistance of the public where that form of aid could be profitably employed, and with that view he earnestly invited persons of all classes and of all professions and pursuits to grant their active, willing, unremunerated help to the Society, by enrolling themselves in the District Committees.

The second point, the noble lord said, to which he would invite the attention of the meeting was the earnest desire which the Society entertained to aid the movement for encouraging provident habits among the poor. The Society in this appeared not only as consulting, but as an active agency, and co-operated in a work which was doubly entitled to support; for it was not only of a remedial but also of a preventive character. It aimed alike at maintaining morality in the individual, and at intercepting the necessity of imposing burdens upon the community. The Society had in the past year granted upwards of one thousand loans, which probably involved a disbursement of not less than £2,000; and the moralizing and useful tendency of the course adopted was proved by the punctuality of reimbursements, which had been noticed by the noble and learned Chairman, and by the small amount of losses which had been incurred. He would not refer at length to the institution of Penny Banks; but that was an object which the Society had much at heart. (Hear, hear.)

The speaker then addressed himself to the question of the Special Committees of the Society, in connection with which he observed, that it had been intimated by some that in forming Special Committees to inquire into matters of general social interest the Society had, perhaps, transgressed its proper limits, and stepped into the arena of politics. He did not think that the action of the Society was open to this reproach, and he found its vindication in the subjects to which those Committees had devoted their attention. Those subjects were the condition of the dwellings of the poor, and the institutions for the relief of the blind. Even in a general point of view the Society might justly entertain the question of the dwellings of the industrial classes. The insufficient and unsanitary condition of dwellings lay at the root of much of the vice, disease, and crime which were the causes and companions of destitution, and which inflicted such heavy burdens on the public and private charitable agencies of the country. It was a legitimate task of the Society to investigate the remedies for such evils; but the intervention of the Society was particularly justified by a consideration of the various and partly conflicting character of the agencies now existing for the improvement of the habitations of the working classes. These agencies were of three kinds: The action of the Government working through the operation of existing laws—the action of endowed charitable institutions—the action of commercial companies, which were, however, not without a charitable element in their origin and regulations. The representatives of these three forms of action were convoked and placed in friendly communication with each other. Their several methods were contrasted and discussed. Information was invited from without, and the result was a large amount of mutual enlightenment, the diffusion of a spirit of co-operation, and representations to Government which were not unfruitful. He did not claim for the Committee of Dwellings that they dictated or directly guided the policy of Government, but he claimed for the Committee that they supplied the Government with such information and such views as satisfied the Government of the urgency of the case. That urgency was frankly recognised; pledges were given which were promptly and honourably fulfilled, and the Special Committee were gratified to recognise in the measure now before Parliament some of the features of a report which had been some time before the public. In regard to the Special Committee for the Blind, he need hardly defend the course taken by the Society. No society having charity for its object need make any apology for inquiring into the position of the most helpless class of mankind, and one which inspired the most pathetic interest. But the support of the blind was not only a sentimental but also an economical question. He would not say in a spirit of complaint that the blind were a burden—they were a sacred burden which all would be solicitous to support; but the blind had long lived simply on the alms of the charitable, and it was part of an enlightened philanthropy not only to give them education and harmless pleasures, and the means of leading virtuous and Christian lives, but

also to endue them with the faculty and dignity of self-support. The Council of the Society had called together the representatives of the various institutions for the relief of the blind, in order that they might consult and inform each other, and compare the various means by which, in different establishments and in different countries, their humane and useful aims were followed and realised. He believed that the inquiries thus instituted would be beneficial to the institutions, to the blind themselves, and to the community in general. (Hear, hear.)

The speaker then explained that there were three funds in the Society: the General Council Fund, for the support of the general machinery; the District Committee Fund, for local application; and a third fund, named the District Committee Aid Fund, a regulating fund by which the superfluous resources of the richer districts could be distributed in aid of the Committees in the poorer quarters of the town. By the munificence of the Duke of Bedford and other benefactors of the Society, the Central Fund had been well supplied, and some of the District Committee funds were not unprosperous. Subscriptions were therefore earnestly solicited for the Aid Fund, which was shown in the Report to be in an impoverished condition.

The noble lord concluded by expressing his hope that the fact that there was throughout the country a diminution of pauperism and crime, and in some parts an improvement in the statistics of public health, would not lead to the impression that there was less need for the philanthropic labours of this Society and of other charitable agencies. The diminution of crime and disease might, no doubt, in part be due to industrial schools, to improved police, to sanitary works, but much more, he apprehended, must be referred to commercial prosperity, and the amelioration therefore reposed on a transitory and unsubstantial basis. Far from relaxing, we must intensify our endeavours in order to secure and establish that which had been already won. There was need for further and combined aggression on the melancholy regions of vice, disease, poverty, and crime; and while he recognised that there were many and various means of carrying on this noble and holy war, he could present to them the Charity Organisation Society as a useful and respectable instrument of an exceptional character—which yielded to no other agency in efficacy and power for good. (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. G. Lewis, in the absence of Sir Sydney Waterlow, M.P. seconded the motion for the adoption of the Report. He said that he had to congratulate the promoters of that meeting on belonging to one of the best abused associations in existence; he had heard the Charity Organisation Society described as composed of miserable *doctrinaires*, and, indeed, since his name appeared in the announcements of those who were to speak at the meeting, he had had constant reminders that he was identifying himself with a very hard-hearted Society. He could give some reasons why the Society had fallen into such popular disfavour, at least among some. The Society had addressed itself to a noble work, and had acted upon an extraordinary plan of action, which exposed the miserable lack of principle which existed in charity givers and receivers; for principle was wanting in givers who gave to those who only asked, and of those whose true wants they knew nothing. The work of the Society was not confined to showing that there was a strong connection between 'mendacity' and 'mendicity,' or to counteracting the efforts of impostors; but it taught the higher purposes of human life, showing that those who had the means should deal with their fellow-creatures on a right principle. The Society was not regarded with favour by the people who gave from sudden impulses, for they did not like to have it made clear to them that this was not charity according to the Divine law, and some who gave in this way did so in mere idleness, for it was easier to give than to inquire. These people who thus acted had a strong family likeness to that by any means unique character, the Unjust Judge, spoken of in the parable, who did as the widow asked him in avenging her of her adversaries, not that he was convinced she was right, but 'lest by her continual coming she weary me.' (Hear, hear.) Charity to be charity must proceed from a right motive, be actuated by a right spirit, and directed to a right object; and when the Society endeavoured to show this, it interfered with one of the most ancient occupations of the human family—professional mendicancy. The speaker went on to show that the institution of mendicancy had existed, indeed flourished, in many ages, and had been celebrated in verse by the poets even down to the rhymes of the present time, for had we not been taught to lisp in infant accents, 'Pity the sorrows of a poor old man?' He drew attention to Martin Luther's 'Boke of Vagabonds,' and traced out in the practices of the present day strong family likeness to the deceits which Martin Luther exposed. He related the history of a discovered imposture on the part of a family who lived in his own neighbourhood, a family who lived upon the first luxuries in season, and who, on leaving the home in which they had conducted some of their operations, left behind a box of letters, 400 in number, showing that they had carried on a begging-letter correspondence with members of the Royal Family and of the aristocracy, and had 'operated upon' many members of the House of Commons. Then, too, clergymen had visitors who were in 'deep spiritual distress,' and added that they needed, too, a 'little pecuniary assistance.' (A laugh.) Only lately he (Mr. Lewis) had been the victim of one who had fastened on him after vacillating between Archbishop Manning and Mr. Spurgeon. The speaker bore his warm testimony to the zeal with which



the representative Committee of the Society in the parish of Kensington performed its duty, and spoke of the loving help given to the deserving poor. He had seen industrious labouring men, recovering from illness, sent to the seaside to recruit their strength; he knew of honest street-sellers, whose barrows had been restocked and who had been enabled to earn a living; women helped with sewing-machines and other means of obtaining a living; and, all in all, he congratulated the Society upon the work in which it was engaged, a work which, he believed, had the approval of more than human testimony, and was a work which cherished in the hearts of those who practised it the deep and noble sentiment of love to others. (Cheers.)

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, M.P., then rose to propose the second resolution,—

That co-operation between Charity and the Poor-law is most desirable, as tending to strengthen the administration of both, and to decrease pauperism.

He said that until he heard the remarks of the last speaker he was not aware of the unpopularity of the Society; he knew that it was very popular with some who were well able to judge, and as one who had had some connection with the administration of the Poor-laws, he could speak of the value of the work carried out by the Society in combination with the Poor-laws. (Cheers.) A volume had been recently issued—the one referred to by the noble and learned Chairman—containing a collection of reports of the operation of the Poor-laws in foreign countries. He had himself some responsibility for the collection of those reports. They were edited by Mr. Doyle, a gentleman of long experience in Poor-law matters, and one of the most enlightened of the inspectors of the Local Government Board. Mr. Doyle, in his introduction, compared the Poor-law system of England with that of Continental countries, and showed that in two countries only were the charges for the poor met by a special tax—these two being England and Denmark—and that only in Prussia, Denmark, and Sweden, did the right to demand maintenance exist by law. Mr. Senior's work took a somewhat different view of the English law, and one which seemed to him more practical and correct. As Mr. Doyle stated, the right which obtained in this country to proper relief was not a right which could be asserted in any court of law; but it was, as Mr. Senior showed, one which ruled, without dispute, in the administration of the Poor-law, subject only to the right of the Poor-law guardians to be the judges of the necessity existing in each case; and so, practically speaking, this country must be treated as under a law which gave every person a right of demanding, in case of need, the necessities of life. (Hear.) And in the interpretation of this right it was ruled that it not only included food, shelter, and clothes, but everything necessary in any condition of life—the most expensive medicine and nursing, the care of lunatics and the aged, as well as the treatment, the nursing, and the education of infants and children. So wide a system as this, as he need hardly say, was capable of doing great good, but if not soundly organised and carried out, would be productive of more harm than good. (Hear.) But, by the side of this system of legalised charity, there was a system of outside voluntary charity, unexampled in amount; and when it was known what vast sums were thus irregularly bestowed upon the poor, it would be seen that the whole thing needed systematising and organisation in order to avoid the double work, which could not be helped while each side kept its own work to itself, and that organisation would prevent the pauperisation which followed the careless administration of Poor-laws and charitable funds. Whence, he asked, did those charitable and legal agencies arise? And looking for the reason of their existence, he conceived that they owed their birth to the complex conditions of modern society. The wealthy had a sense of obligation—an obligation which they endeavoured to discharge by scattering relief, and the country generally endeavoured on its part to quit itself of its obligations by the enactment of the Poor-law. But neither the efforts of the public in the Poor-law nor the efforts of the wealthy in charities would do any real good unless wisely administered. These means of relief at best were but palliatives—they could not cure nor remove the evils. But more, there was a larger danger still, for in the lax and unscientific treatment of the poor in legal or charitable work it was extremely easy to do more harm than good. (Hear, hear.) Some of the soundest thinkers of this country—so great had been the evils from maladministration—had addressed their minds to consider the question, whether it would not be better for the poor of this country that there should neither be Poor-law nor charitable agencies. This question need not be discussed by the meeting, because it suggested an impossible hypothesis. (Hear, hear.) Charity sprang from motives which no good man or woman could be without, and it was impossible to stem its flow; and no State could exist in safety without a Poor-law of some description, or a State Organised Charity. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, the practical work was to deal with the charities. To minimise the dangers of lax administration was the object of the Charity Organisation Society—(Hear, hear)—and to this it had turned its attention, proving itself, as the noble and learned Chairman had said, a practical society. It was a Society one of whose functions was criticism, and it was an edu-

cational Society, in that it educated the minds of administrators of charities to the necessity of organisation to secure the good administration of the funds committed to their charge. (Hear, hear.) Then the Society, besides pointing out what charities could do in organisation, had pointed out the necessity for co-operation with the Poor-law, and had prepared the way for that necessary combination of the Poor-law with the charitable institutions of the country. The speaker then referred to a report issued by the Fulham and Hammersmith Committee, in which attention was called to the fact, that on a given day in June 1874 the paupers of England and Wales were put down as being only 735,000. These figures represented the numbers under the Poor-laws on a given day; but it was not an accurate representation of the amount of pauperism in the country; that was to say, of the numbers of persons who, in the course of a year had been relieved, and who, therefore, were on the brink of pauperism, and the Committee had come to the conclusion that the numbers were nearer four millions, or one-sixth of our population. (Hear.) He was glad to find that the Society was doing a large amount of practical work; and what it had done in regard to inquiring as to the applicants for medical assistance at the hospitals, proved the truth of the doubt which had often been expressed as to the necessitous condition of those who so applied, and showed how much better it would be to institute for the out-door patient system a system of provident dispensaries. (Hear.) That was the advice of the Charity Organisation Society, and it would be well if those who directed the affairs of the great London hospitals would take this into consideration. (Hear, hear.) The Report said:—

The object of the Society is not to become the great relief agency of London, but to make itself the servant of all other agencies, with a view to making the assistance they give effectual, and to economising their energies by promoting division of labour. The Reports show that an increasing number of charities and charitable individuals are learning to ask the District Offices to inquire into alleged cases of distress for them, and to advise them as to the best mode of assisting those whose cases admit of help; whilst signs are not wanting of progress in the very difficult work of bringing about what—according as it is looked at from one side or the other—may be called either co-operation amongst relief agencies or division of charitable labour.

He could not but think that it would be a very happy act on the part of the great charities of the metropolis if they would come to regard this Society as a kind of general agency for their use, and support its work out of their ample funds. As to the necessity of relations being organised between organised charity—assuming the charities to be organised—and the Poor-law, he would put it in two ways. Let it be considered that there was a Poor-law system which sanctioned out-relief—and he might say that he, in common with most who had studied and watched the subject, was very much in favour of a stricter system of out-relief. It was not possible to abolish out-relief; but, he would ask, did not this out-relief partake of the character and nature of charity, and tread upon the heels of charity; and, if it was not carefully administered, did it not become relief in aid of wages? (Hear, hear.) This being so, was it not true, that without some organisation between those who administered this out-relief and those who administered charity, there was every chance of work being done twice over, and an increase of those evil pauperising tendencies which it was most earnestly desired to diminish? (Hear.) If, on the other hand, in some part of the country a body of guardians desired not to give out-relief, they could only take that course if there was such an organisation of outside charity that they could venture to depend upon it, reserving to themselves the administration of the workhouse. (Hear.) In the volume which Mr. Doyle had compiled was a report by Mr. Strachey with regard to a commission in Denmark, and Mr. Doyle said:—

That which the Charity Organisation Society is so earnestly endeavouring to do by voluntary agency in this country the Committee recommends to be done by legislation in Denmark. It suggested the complete separation, by legislative enactment, of public and private charitable functions; the literal restriction of public relief to such individuals as are actually unable to work, that is to say, to children and aged and weak persons. Settlement to depend no longer on domicile, but exclusively on birthplace. The present territorial and administrative arrangements to be maintained. A large development to be given to the workhouse system. Out-door relief to be sparingly allowed. Foreigners who have not been naturalised to have no claim on the parish. Casual foreign paupers to receive temporary local relief. The Committee further recommend that the official system be supported by the organisation, under legislative sanction, of general voluntary relief. The financial basis of this would consist in the voluntary contributions of the charitably disposed, in certain donations which may with propriety be attributed to this object, and in the resources of the parish poor-chests (previously described), augmented by certain small fees and fines. Management to be by an elective board. No charity to be dispensed to the recipients of public relief. Investigation of cases to be personal and severe; money to be given in exceptional instances only.

It was easier to propose legislative enactments than to draft a bill, or to carry such proposals through Parliament; and, even if such were carried, it would be difficult to carry them into effect. But the more these questions were considered the more was seen the necessity for the operations of this Society, and therefore he felt that the appeals which had been made on behalf of the Society were sufficiently justified, and ought not to be made in vain. (Hear, hear.) He did not desire to damp the enthusiasm of those associated with the Society, but he would say that which they themselves knew to be true—that, after all they could succeed in doing in organising charity and the Poor-laws, the cure of poverty was to be found outside rather than inside the circles of charity and poor relief, for these



were only palliatives. The cure would depend on other work, which would not deal with existing pauperism, but would prevent its existence; for this they must look to improved dwellings for the poor, and to a completion of the system of national education. (Loud cheers.)

The Deau of Winchester seconded the motion, and said he was called upon to do so as the Chairman of one of the Associations affiliated to this great Charity Organisation Society. He had had some experience as to co-operation between charity and the Poor-law. He was for some time Chairman of a Board of Guardians, as well as clergyman of the parish for which that board sat, and he was often obliged to refuse relief when sitting in the chair as a guardian, and afterwards to consider the person entitled to relief when as clergyman he administered charity. (Hear.) Since going to Winchester he had been Chairman of the Charity Organisation Society of that town, and great good had been effected by it during the last two years. (Hear.) There was no town in England which was in a more demoralised condition in this respect than Winchester had been a few years ago. It was certainly improved now; not, he would say, through the Charity Organisation Society alone, but through the influence which the Society had exercised upon the people in that city to think before they acted in giving alms, and to consider whether they would not do more harm than good in giving to the passing beggar. (Hear, hear.) As he understood it, the object of the Society was not to give casual relief, but so to render sufficient aid as to give people a fresh start in life, or to help them permanently in some other way. A case occurred a short time ago in which a poor man, who could not have borne the expense of obtaining justice for himself, complained that the 'Benefit Society' to which he belonged refused to give him the weekly allowance to which he was entitled. The Charity Organisation Society undertook his case, and ascertained that there was a local branch of the Benefit Society in Winchester, but that the important central office was in Birmingham. The poor man could not go to Birmingham, as he would have been obliged to do, and the Charity Organisation Society employed a lawyer there, and another at Winchester, and these did their work so well that the man was reinstated and obtained a considerable sum—the money which ought to have been given as his weekly allowance. The result was, that the Charity Organisation Society of Winchester exposed the sham society, and both the lawyers refused to take one penny for their expenses on account of the great good done to the community. (Cheers.) He would add that there existed at Winchester a practice in regard to Poor-law operations which did not, perhaps, exist elsewhere. It so happened that in Winchester there were a number of small benefactions—small doles of sixpence a week some of them—and it was the general impression that these doles did infinite harm, and tended, by encouraging dependence, to increase pauperism. But what he had to complain of was that when a poor person had thus received perhaps five shillings, he was docked of that amount from his weekly relief at the Guardian Board, and so the charity went to the relief of property. The Charity Organisation Society considered that these doles should not be given to those in receipt of poor relief, but if they were given to the persons above the verge of pauperism they would be useful in assisting persons who were struggling to maintain themselves, often with much difficulty. (Hear.) Then Winchester had a Mendicity Society, and when it was established twenty years ago it gave considerable benefit to the real respectable wayfarers. Investigation, however, lately was made about sixty persons, taken at random from those who came to have the night's lodging and relief, and of the sixty only three were found to be proper recipients of the charity, and these were the only proper objects of relief at all. Of course a Mendicity Society could not 'test' these persons, as was the case at the Union Workhouse, by making them work; and so a Mendicity Association drew people to Winchester who could give no account of whence they came or whither they were going, their names or ordinary means of subsistence; and the Mendicity Societies—at all events that of Winchester did—tended to increase at least the profession of 'tramps,' if not of actual pauperism, rather than acted as a means of relief of actual distress. (Hear.) He regarded this Society as one of the best means of encouraging real charity, and as a stimulus to the honest worker. All thankfully acknowledged that charity was inherent in natural and revealed religion, and was the bond of unity by which people were to help one another; but nothing more surely hindered this common interchange of kind feeling as the action of the fraudulent mendicant. (Hear.) There was no greater enemy to Christianity than the beggar who told a false story, and knew it to be false, for the deception was sooner or later discovered, and the consequence of the discovery was to chill the hearts of our fellow-Christians. He urged the importance of these Provincial Associations, even as regarded London; for as London was fed with the population from the country, those who came up from the country towns should be made to know that their cases would be investigated, wherever they were, before they were relieved by the kindness of their neighbours. (Cheers.)

The motion was agreed to.

Sir Charles Trevelyan said that the Society, notwithstanding the opposition mentioned by Mr. Lewis, had made satisfactory progress during the

five or six years of its existence, and no better proof of this could be given than the names of the distinguished men who had presided over its annual meetings. (Cheers.) But he must say that Lord Hatherley's accession to the chair had given him more pleasure than that of any of his predecessors. The Charity Organisation Society was charged with 'cold philosophy;' but Lord Hatherley was universally known to exercise a genial, personal charity—visiting the fatherless and widow in their affliction, holding out a helping hand to the deaf and dumb and blind—(Cheers)—and dispensing every seventh day the gift of knowledge, and especially of religious knowledge, to the young. A nobleman with these characteristics would not have identified himself with a 'cold and calculating policy' repressive of the best instincts which God had planted in man. Support like this imposed a serious responsibility upon the Society; but he could say, from considerable experience, that the Society had worked more in the spirit of a hard-worked public department, such as the Local Government Board or the Post Office, than of a charitable society; and it has had the advantage of two secretaries in Mr. Bosanquet and Mr. Ribton-Turner, to find whose equals recourse must be had to the best men in the best departments of the State. (Cheers.) If it had not been for Mr. Bosanquet and Mr. Ribton-Turner's perseverance, ability, energy, and self-sacrifice, the Society would not stand in its present high position. (Cheers.) Then, too, he must say on behalf of his colleagues on the Council, that for a time they used to be continually discussing general principles; but having well threshed and winnowed them out, they now seldom mentioned them. The Society had chosen its lines, and if these were not always 'pleasant,' the members of the Society were satisfied they were true lines, and that the good ship built upon them would hold its course throughout the world. The time had come when, instead of going on pouring water into buckets without bottoms, the condition of the poor should be permanently improved, by making them self-respecting and self-supporting. (Hear.) 'Self-help' was the motto of the Society. He might, upon that text, preach a sermon which would last till next day; but 'one thing at a time,' and the most important thing now before them was the reform of the system of medical relief. (Hear.) This was the most prolific source of pauperism in the metropolis. All required, at times, medical aid; and it was given at present to the entire working class, and to a wide margin of the lower middle class, on a purely eleemosynary principle; so that our hospitals and dispensaries had become training schools of mendicant pauperism. (Hear.) On behalf of the Society he assured the public that it would endeavour to justify their confidence and good opinion and he begged to move a vote of thanks to the noble Chairman for presiding. (Cheers.)

General Cavenagh cordially seconded the motion, and said that all interested in the well-being of the country and in the elevation of the poor owed a deep debt of gratitude to the noble and learned Chairman for his thoughtful and instructive address, and for presiding that day.

The motion was put by Sir Charles Trevelyan and carried unanimously.

Lord Hatherley, in acknowledging the vote, said that from the first he had seen how useful this Society might become. His old and valued friend and school-fellow (the Dean of Winchester) had told them of the evils which had existed in that old cathedral town, and which, he believed, existed in all cathedral towns, owing to the well-meant but ill-placed benevolence of their predecessors. (Hear, hear.) As a contrast, he might mention that his friend the Dean and he were deeply indebted to the kind prelate who founded the oldest foundation school in England in that same city of Winchester. Though the Dean and he did not receive gratuitous education, they had the advantage of his foundation there, and a corresponding advantage at Oxford. These foundations not only gave great assistance in acquiring knowledge to those who needed aid, but gathered round them learned instructors, who were able to instruct pupils outside the pale of the institution itself; and thus this one town presented examples of judicious and injudicious charity. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that the Charity Organisation Society would go on in its good work, preventing mischievous so-called charity from harming the population; and he was sure that instead of engendering a 'cold-hearted philosophy' it would cause charity to spread and be lasting, by enabling them to assist the poor without suspicion and distrust. (Hear, hear.) Those who gave without inquiry could not help suspecting that their charity was misplaced, and inquiry into the results of it soon caused a chill, even to the most charitably disposed. Then people sought to guard themselves by giving vicarious charity, and, by means of hospitals and other places, leaving others to do good for them; but now by means of this Society individual cases could be so thoroughly investigated, and the facts of every case could be so brought out, that one could again act, he would not say as a benefactor, but as a brother man. He trusted that every success would attend the Society in all its work. (Cheers.)

#### THE JEWISH "BOARD OF GUARDIANS."

Those who are interested in the cause of Charity Reform should read the report of the Jewish Board of Guardians for the past year, which has recently been presented to the annual meeting of their subscribers. It is well



known that this body bears a very faint analogy to the parochial Board which is known by that name. Besides the fundamental difference that the Jewish Board is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, upon which the Jewish poor have no legal claim at all, its relief function is much more extensive than that of the rate-supported Board. It embraces within its scope not only destitution but distress, and deals both with chronic cases, to which weekly or monthly allowances are made, and with cases of temporary distress, where help in time—given often with no grudging hand—may be expected to be of permanent benefit.

The first point noted in the report is a decline in the number of applicants from 2,072 in 1873 to 1,869 in 1874. As the number of those receiving fixed allowances remains the same, the decrease has arisen in the cases of temporary distress; and since there has been of late years an increase in the amount awarded to each case, the result may indicate that many have been helped to a position of independence. It should however be remarked that this decline in the number of applicants is coincident with a similar decline of pauperism throughout the metropolis, and may probably be attributed to the same general cause.

How to bring the various charitable agencies into co-operation with each other seems to be as difficult a problem in the Jewish community as it is outside; indeed, in the opinion of some, the difficulties are even greater, from the fact that in a comparatively small body every one is more or less, known, and the risk of imposture, and the need for systematic co-operation less apparent. The report for 1872 speaks thus of this question:—The Board was entrusted last year (1871) with tickets to the value of £38. 13s. 3d., out of a sum of above £2,000, which is annually distributed by two or three institutions within the course of the winter months. As will be seen the casual poor only entailed on the Board during the whole of the past year a cost of £1,345. 9s. 11d.; and although it would have been desirable, had the funds permitted, to have given more to each case, no deserving applicant was ever turned away. It has taken the Board years to inculcate habits of independence among the poor; but the chance of any permanent improvement must be seriously jeopardised, when, in three short months of each year, an unregistered distribution takes place of an amount 50 per cent. greater than the Board expends during the whole year in casual relief.

Since this was written some progress has been made, and the present report points out that arrangements for concerted action have been entered into with the Jewish Home and with the Committee of the Soup Kitchen. In the former case three members of each body have become members of the other, in the hope that a year's experience of each other's work may point the way to a closer co-operation; in the latter case the list of regular applicants at the soup kitchen is to be forwarded to the Board, and information exchanged as to each case, while the names and addresses of casual applicants (i.e. those who come without tickets) are to be taken down once or twice during the season, and forwarded to the Board for investigation.

Turning to the industrial aid given by the Board, it is gratifying to see that the conditions of the labour market are readily recognised in the selection of trades. The four branches into which the work of the industrial Committee divides itself, are:—

1. The loan of sewing machines.
2. The loan of tools and implements to artisans.
3. The apprenticing of youths to trades other than tailoring and cigar-making.
4. The training of a class of boys as shorthand writers.

On the first and second head no special remark is needed, but it is in carrying out their third object that the committee have met with their greatest difficulties. The trades of tailoring and cigar-making are much overstocked, and in consequence sadly underpaid, and the committee have therefore widely made known their readiness to apprentice boys to other trades, as cabinet-makers, jewellers, monumental stonemasons, and leather-bag makers. The committee, however, have not been able to wean the poor from trades to which they are accustomed, and only seven boys have as yet been apprenticed to the new trades. It is needless to add that the wisdom of the committee's scheme is in no way affected by its want of immediate success. For the shorthand class eleven of the best pupils in the Jewish School have been selected, and are now receiving instruction in this art.

Another point referred to is the total discontinuance of out-door medical relief. 'The result of this measure' (which was determined upon in 1873), says the report, 'has been satisfactory in a double aspect; it has eliminated from the attendants at the dispensary those who made use of it as a means of obtaining relief rather than medicine, while it has given the medical officer more leisure to attend to those who were really ill.'

Two points remain to be noticed. One is that relief in kind, which was originally intended to be the common form of relief, is being gradually given up, having been found less advantageous than was anticipated; and the other is that a change has taken place in the duties of the visiting committee, which is thus described: 'It has been found from year to year less beneficial to carry on the system of each visitor taking special cases under his care, and that more harm than good arises from recipients of charity

finding themselves under the special care of a visitor delegated by the board. In such cases the person to be relieved always manages to have some special tale of misfortune or of want to recite, and the intended good generally results in causing a constant expectation of relief, tending to check the energies of the poor towards supporting themselves.' Under these circumstances the visiting committee confine themselves to assisting the investigating committee.

J. R. H.

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SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities, and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

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### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

'The Charity Organisation Society have done good service, not only directly in the results actually produced by them in London, but also indirectly in the attention which they have secured everywhere to the whole difficult question of the administration of charity. In this last way "A Handy-Book for Visitors of the Poor in London" (Longmans), put together by their Secretary, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be found very useful. Its special information applies more particularly to London, and will be invaluable to those who are engaged in any way in ministering to the wants of the London poor; but the general principles and suggestions, as well as a good deal of the information about poor-laws, sanitary laws, provident societies, &c., may be studied with advantage by kindly-disposed people everywhere.'—*Guardian*.

'We have much pleasure in bringing to notice this very useful little publication, which will supply a need often felt. The writer is thoroughly well acquainted with the subject, and has condensed in it the result of much personal experience. From our own acquaintance with the London poor, and the difficulties which have to be encountered in the administration of judicious relief, we feel satisfied that the advice given in this little brochure is sound. We trust the perusal of this book will lead to a healthier course of action—not restraining, but guiding charity, and rendering it a blessing, not a curse.'—*Christian Observer*.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 132.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 24, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The Administrative Committee will not meet to-morrow.

The Central Office will be closed on Good Friday, and re-opened on Easter Tuesday.

As the Council does not meet on Easter Monday, no *Reporter* will be issued next week.

District Committees are reminded that a fresh election of Representatives at the Council has to be made (under Rule X.) within one month after the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

The revised Books and Forms are now nearly ready, and copies can be ordered from Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co., New Street Square, E.C. Sample sheets will shortly be sent out to District Committees and affiliated Associations.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Major Yard, Sir R. M. Stephenson, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Lord William Compton, Major H. A. Sanford, W. W. Moore, Esq., *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, Reginald Smith, Esq., *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Hamilton Hay Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill Wobber, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Rev. A. J. Ross, Russell H. Barrington, Esq., *Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., F. Mont-

gomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; George Parker, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; Captain G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., G. Blount, Esq., S. Fuller, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 37. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*; Miss Martin, *Visitor*.

The Secretary reported that Mr. R. Burnett had consented to act as an Honorary Secretary of the St. Olave's Committee, and that the Rev. J. Chadburn had been elected a representative of the Poplar Committee, *vice* Mr. Corner.

Also that the Chaplain of the Dudley Stuart Home had written to call attention to a young man of about twenty, calling himself John Thompson, who was going about Paddington and its neighbourhood, and making false statements as to the conditions of admission to the Home.

### MISS STRIDE.

Attention was called to the reports in the morning papers of a statement made on Saturday, at the Bow Street Police Court, on behalf of Miss Stride. See *infra*, p. 52.

The Secretary explained that the statement made by Mr. Giffard with regard to an agent of the Society had reference to two visits which the Assistant Organising Secretary had paid to Miss Stride's Home two years ago, to make some inquiries from Miss Stride about a matter which did not concern herself. The Society had certainly not set anyone to watch her house, nor had any report been sent out at all resembling that received by Miss Stride, either in form or substance. There was no reason to suppose that any of the statements in the libel had been derived from the Society.

It was agreed that every effort should be made to discover the printer of the circular, and a wish was expressed that any person who had received one would forward it, with the envelope, to the Organising Secretary.

### A DESERVING CASE.

The Secretary asked, on behalf of the Newington Committee, whether any member knew of any Home that would take in a blind woman of good character, who had recently lost her husband, and had a child 19 months old.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending March 13 the receipts had been £141. 13s. 10d. for the General Fund, and £25 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds had been £1,286. 7s. 6d. and £213. 13s. 9d. respectively.

That their attention had been called by the Secretary to the fact that, in consequence of the arrangement entered into with the Newport Market Refuge, and other changes, several of the Information Papers required alteration, and that they had ordered, subject to the approval of Council, that this opportunity be taken to reprint them in the more compact form of a District Committee Paper for the use of Honorary Secretaries.



Also that a letter had been received from Mr. Francis Peek, approving the draft arrangement which had been submitted to him, and that they had directed that this should now be sent out with a transmitting letter to the District Committees.

#### EAST LONDON COLLECTOR.

The recommendation of the Administrative Committee was considered—

That the sum of £37. 10s. be again granted to the East London Financial Committee, as salary for a Collector for six months.

A letter was read from the Rev. S. Barnett, as Hon. Secretary of the East End Financial Committee, stating that the collector had only collected about £160, but that he had done much to make the work of the Society known among the shopkeepers and small tradesmen. Most of the money had been raised in small sums: the Committees had not as yet succeeded in getting at the large employers.

The Rev. H. G. Henderson hoped that the grant would not tie the five Committees to the present plan of dividing the money received by the collector equally.

Mr. Russell Barrington thought it would be well that each Committee should receive what was collected in its own District. At present the Committees had not a sufficiently direct interest in what was obtained. They might find a way of approaching the employers. He believed that the general feeling was strongly in favour of a joint collector. If any Committee preferred a separate collector it could withdraw.

The recommendation was adopted, with a direction that the East End Financial Committee should be requested to consider whether it would be advantageous to alter the present mode of dividing the funds.

#### THE SUPERVISION SUB-COMMITTEE.

Mr. Russell Barrington moved:

That it is desirable that the Supervision Sub-Committee be discontinued.

The Sub-Committee had confined itself in practice to supervising the Inquiry Department; he thought that this should be done by the Administrative Committee rather than by a permanent Sub-Committee. The Administrative Committee might have two meetings in the week if necessary.

Mr. J. R. Hollond called attention to the recommendation of the Administrative Committee on the subject (see *Notices* below). The duties of the Sub-Committee needed to be defined, but there was work enough for it to do.

Sir Alexander Gordon had attended the Sub-Committee regularly for some months. It was doing most useful work, and the fact of its being attended week after week by the same members was a great advantage, as they were able to keep the thread of the cases that came before them.

Mr. Wightman-Wood pointed out that large organisations must make much use of standing Committees.

The motion was withdrawn, and the Council adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending March 20, 1875:—*Donations*: E. Courage, Esq., £10; J. Disney, Esq., 8s.; Hon. Mrs. J. W. Malcolm, £1; Mrs. G. L. Prendergast, £1; 'Spinster Lady, late C.V.,' £5; R. H. Vade Walpole, Esq., £5. *Annual*: Lady Crossley, £1. 1s.; Lieut.-Colonel Elliot C.B., £1. 1s.; Mrs. Rowland J. Venables, £2. 2s.; the Very Rev. the Dean of Winchester, £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: F. D. Mocatta, Esq., £15; Miss Pomeroy, £5; W. E. Welby, Esq., M.P., £3.

The following business stands for Monday, April 5:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee—

'1. That the sum of £10 due to the District Committee Aid Fund from Islington Committee be remitted.'

'2. That the work of the Supervision Sub-Committee be limited to the inquiry department of the Organising Secretary's work, and that the Committee be called the Inquiry Sub-Committee.'

Sir Alexander Gordon to move: 'That the following gentlemen be elected

Additional Members of Council for the coming twelve months: Sir Rutherford Alcock, Sir J. G. T. Sinclair, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigg, Dr. Hawksley, and Messrs. Blount, Fuller, Hicks, Hughes, Phillips-Jodrell, Miner, and Wightman-Wood.'

Mr. J. R. Hollond to propose members of the Administrative Committee for the coming twelve months.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill to call attention to the Report of the Sub-Committee on Employment, and to make suggestions as to the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by					Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Under- deserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total				
Kensington .....	8	6	1	15	..	..	3	3	4	2	5	..	11	29	9	7	9
Fulham .....	1	3	1	5	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	7	3	4	9
Paddington .....	2	2	3	7	..	..	2	2	5	2	1	..	8	17	18	11	..
Chelsea .....	1	1	..	2	1	3	1	5	1	1	1	..	3	10	11	4	1
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	..	2	2	..	1	2	3	4	1	..	1	6	29	9	4	..
Westminster do.	..	3	6	9	..	..	5	5	3	..	..	1	4		4	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	9
St. Marylebone .....	2	4	5	11	..	14	4	18	5	2	..	..	7	36	6	5	..
Hampstead .....	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	5	1	2	2
North St. Paneras and Highgate .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South St. Paneras .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	8	1	3	2
Islington .....	3	1	..	4	1	..	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	11	11	1	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	4	2	6	..
Strand .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	4	5	7	..
Holborn .....	1	..	2	3	..	2	1	3	..	1	..	..	1	7	4	6	2
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	3	4	20	..
Shoreditch .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	6	1
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	1	2	3	1	1	5	1	1	..	..	2	9	3	1	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	3	4	1	8	2	1	2	5	..	1	2	1	4	17	9	..	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	2	..	7	9	..	4	..	4	..	..	1	1	1	14	5	2	..
Poplar .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	..	4	5	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	7	1	8	..
Newington .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	6	5	4	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	1	2	3	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	6	..
Lambeth:— { North ..	1	..	3	4	2	1	..	3	4	..	..	4	15	2	3	..	..
{ South ..	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	2		3	3	2	1
Wandsworth & Putney	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	1
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	2	..	..	2	3	1	1	1	1
Clapham .....	1	1	..	2	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	15	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	5	5	10	..	3	..	3	3	..	..	3	14	2	2	..	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	4	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..		..	1	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	1	10	..	2	13	16	2	2	12
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4	..	..	4	5	1	1	4	3
Woolwich .....	1	3	..	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	6	..	1	3	4
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	3	4	..	7	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Sydenham .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	3	..	..	6	..
Total .....	29	37	61	127	11	33	32	76	50	28	12	11	101	304	139	105	97

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of March 1875 was 36,869, and 62,091 received out-door relief, making a total of 98,960. This was an increase of 579 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,582, 20,093, and 21,190 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 412. This was an increase of 3 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 191 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Fulham, Hackney, and St. Olave's Committees.

Report of the Council of the Glasgow Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity. 1874.

Annual Report of the Tenby Association for Organising Charitable Relief, 1874.

Annual Report of the Board of Guardians for the Relief of the Jewish Poor. 1874.

Annuaire Philanthropique Genevois. 1875. Publié sous les auspices de la Société Genevoise D'utilité Publique.



## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**NORTH ST. PANCRAS AND HIGHGATE.**—On Monday, the 15th inst., a meeting in connection with this Committee was held at the Literary and Scientific Institute, South Grove, Highgate. In the absence of Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, the announced Chairman, in the early part of the evening, the chair was taken (says the *St. Pancras Gazette*) by Mr. Lake, who in his opening speech referred to the objects of the Society, as set forth in the Report, dwelling upon the more salient points, and pointing out some of the ways in which they might assist in the work.

Mr. Samuda, the Hon. Secretary of the Branch, next addressed the meeting at some length, and fully explained the aims and objects of the Society, stating that they were very much misunderstood by the general public. He then stated the mode of action pursued by the Society, referred to several deserving and undeserving cases which had been dealt with by the Committee during the year, and appealed for aid and support in the work. Speaking of grants and loans to poor people, he said they did not like the former as well as the latter. By the discretionary use of money as loans without interest to the deserving poor, they encouraged a spirit of self-reliance. 158 new names had been placed on their Labour Register, and 383 cases had been brought before the Committee in the year, £26. 18s. having been expended in grants, and £80. 1s. advanced in loans. They relieved where they could and where they saw help was needed, but their regular business was investigation. The cases he had given were fair samples of those which came before them. The public could assist in the work, not only by contributions, but by their moral support. He would counsel all before they gave away money to come to their Society and have the cases inquired into, and would strongly recommend them never to give money away in the streets, as a large amount was thus indiscriminately given.

Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, who on arriving was cordially received, took the chair, and apologised for being late. He understood that Mr. Lake had already introduced the subject, and he needed not to bear testimony to the value of a Society of this nature. They must all feel the necessity for some sort of representative, and accumulation of evidence in matters of charity, which would enable them to discriminate between bad and good cases. However rich or benevolent they might be, if they only gave more money to the beggar indiscriminately they really might do much to encourage habits of beggary, and it might be better to abstain from charity altogether. He had been on the Committee, and witnessed the very admirable way in which the cases were attended to, and the objects of the Society attained. He could recommend it most heartily to their notice.

Mr. W. Ash moved the first resolution:—‘That this Organisation, whilst it aims to repress mendicancy, encourages, by means of public and private sources, a discriminative and efficient administration of benevolence.’ Mr. Ash enforced the sentiment in an earnest speech, referring to the poverty which existed in its most dire form in the back streets, kitchens, courts, and alleys of the metropolis. He thought there were very few people soliciting alms now as compared with a few years back.

Miss Collett seconded the motion, and pointed out the many ways in which ladies might help the Society. They might join themselves, and then induce other women to join, as it was a work for which they were specially adapted. The majority of applications were made by women, and the demands for help came mostly from them. The tact and sympathy of women was most valuable to this Society.

On being put the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. C. J. Ribton-Turner moved the second resolution: ‘That this meeting adopts the principles of this Society, and pledges itself to heartily approve of the same,’ and he urged it in a comprehensive speech, which dealt with the general aspects of the question rather than the local. He believed that the work of charity rested more with ladies than any other class. To show the great importance of this movement he might quote a few figures. In a far West district of London, where he lived, only some 15 per cent. of the population were born in the district; 39 were born in London, and 46 were born in the country and elsewhere. This showed that less than half were born in London, and this rendered the dispensing of charity with discretion very difficult. The Local Government Board gave us credit for having 785,000 paupers in the country, viz. England and Wales, but they did not give credit for the number of applications for relief made in the whole year, by single individuals and others, and it was ascertained that about four millions of people, out of a population of 22 millions, in England and Wales, or about one-sixth, were in a semi-dependent condition. These figures would denote the vast amount of poverty that had to be relieved, and how important it was that such relief should be wisely distributed. These semi-dependent people were like a great millstone on the neck of the nation, as they were a standing source of danger to the rich and to the country. These people could not see the riches all about them without wishing for a share of them. But, after all, he did not think it was more money power that was wanted so much as more thinking power. The Poor-law Guardians were as soft-hearted as they could be, having a very difficult course to pursue, but he believed that the more they gave in out-door relief, the more they were burdening the poor. But

there ought to be intelligent co-operation between the Poor-law Guardians and this Society. If a man was improvident, he ought to be made to accept the hard measures of the Poor-law, in order to drive him to provident habits. When people applied for relief there was always a screw loose somewhere. (No, no.) This question of charity was one of the most, if not the most, pressing questions of the day. Some solution was wanted of the problem how to do justice to the poor and to other classes of society at the same time.

The Rev. H. F. Mallet seconded the motion, and spoke on the subject from a moral and spiritual point of view, stating that he took a serious view of the matter before them.

Votes of thanks having been accorded to Mr. Lake for the use of the Institute, and to the Chairman for presiding, the meeting terminated.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its sixteenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, R.E., Colonel Fyers, Dr. Hawksley, Messrs. T. Clarke, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; Messrs. C. Coburn and J. M. Hutchinson, Visitors; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Secretary reported that through the courtesy of the Austro-Hungarian Embassy he had received two copies of the Report of the Congress of Teachers of the Blind, at Vienna, in 1873.

Also that Major-General Bainbrigge's translation of portions of this was in type, and would be sent to members shortly.

The consideration of Head II. was continued, with reference to improvements in the direction of securing permanent employment for the blind.

The following resolution was carried, on Mr. Harris's motion:—

‘That workshops should be conducted by an experienced sighted manager, on the same principles as any ordinary well-conducted business.’

The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday, April 7.

## HOSPITALS FOR ALL CLASSES.

The following letter appeared in the *Lancet* of the 13th instant:—

‘Sir,—That hospitals are only for one class is an insular prejudice. Many years ago the present Registrar to the Admiralty, being on a mission to French Guiana on slave trade business, fell sick of fever. He was advised to go into hospital, where a healthy, airy room, with the best medical skill and nursing the colony could afford, soon enabled him to return to work. When the General Hospital at Madras was rebuilt, pleasant apartments overlooking the river were reserved for military officers and others waiting to embark for England for the restoration of their health. These examples followed the general practice of the Continent of Europe, and why should it not be naturalised among us? What a relief it would often be, even to a well-to-do family, if a sick member could be nursed at a neighbouring hospital; and how many unmarried ladies and gentlemen would obtain in this way advantages which their own homes could not afford! To set apart rooms in existing hospitals seems better, at any rate at first, than to construct a new hospital entirely for this purpose, as proposed in the last number of the *Lancet*. Full payment must of course be made, but this would be moderate compared with the services rendered. The indirect benefit to the hospitals, by making them popular, and calling attention to the details of their management, would also be very great.

‘The practice in the United States will be seen from the following interesting extract from Sir Fowell Buxton's journal of his recent tour:—“Boston, November 24, 1874.—In the afternoon I went with Dr. Clarke to see the Massachusetts Hospital, which has nothing particular about it except this, that it charges those who are able to pay. It has four classes of patients. 1st. Free beds, but not many. 2nd. Beds free in general, but on which certain persons who have given monies have a claim for their friends. 3rd. The beds constituting the great majority, for which a charge is made of a dollar a day, but part or all is sometimes remitted at the discretion of the governor, who is one of the acting medical officers. No difference is made in the privileges of these three classes, nor any asked for by the patients. 4th. Some private rooms, at five or six dollars a day, where I shall go if necessity requires it. Let — see this; not that I expect the London Hospital to adopt it. At all events, bankruptcy will come first.” Thus it appears that, with special exceptions, all pay who cannot prove their inability to do so, and that paying and non-paying patients occupy adjoining beds without any idea of their receiving unequal attention. Sir Fowell Buxton's allusion to the prejudice which induces us to submit to a chronic state of bankruptcy for most of our medical institutions, and to train our working population to dependence upon alms, rather than receive from them such payments as they are able to make, might be expanded into a book. I am, Sir, yours, &c., C. E. TREVELYAN.’



Those who were present at the Conference on Out-Patient Hospital Relief at the Society of Arts, in December 1871, will remember the remarks of Dr. Acland and Mr. Stansfeld on this subject. We take the following extracts from the Report of the Conference, which is printed at the end of the first Report of the Medical Committee of the Society:—

'At St. Louis, on the Mississippi, he (Dr. Acland) had visited a hospital where there were three classes of sick. First, those sent at the charge of the Town Council to the common wards; second, those who were in the same wards, paying the lowest rate for themselves; third, those who made remunerative payment, and had separate rooms. Something of this kind is wanted, either at our workhouses or at other hospitals.'

Upon which Mr. Stansfeld followed with:—'I was very much struck by the suggestion of Dr. Acland, that it might be well in the organisation of the hospitals and infirmaries, whether belonging to unions or parishes, or to towns, that provision should be made for the treatment in the same building and under the same management, not only of those who were professedly and acknowledgedly paupers, but also of the great mass of the community who could not afford at their own homes to secure the conveniences and accommodation which might be afforded to them in the hospitals, even if they contributed somewhat to the support of those institutions. That suggestion shall have my careful consideration.'

#### A FORGED LIBEL.

At Bow Street, on Saturday, an application was made to Mr. Flowers, on behalf of Miss Stride. Mr. Giffard, Q.C., acting upon the instructions of Messrs. Humphries & Morgan, stated that his client had, it was well known, been engaged for the last twenty years in reclaiming the fallen and unfortunate of her own sex. She was a lady of independent means, having at one time had £11,000, a great part of which she had expended in her charitable work. It might have been conjectured that she would have met with every encouragement from the various institutions having a similar object in view, and some time ago a person describing himself as an agent of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity, Buckingham Street, Strand, waited upon Miss Stride at her 'Home,' in Hart Street, Bloomsbury, and every information was given to him, in the expectation that his object was to render her some assistance. Her hope of this was dispelled by an observation of the agent, towards the close of their interview, which led her to think that he was not favourably disposed towards her mission; and her attention was subsequently directed to the fact that her house was being constantly watched. Eventually a printed circular was sent to her, anonymously, the word 'disgusting' being written upon it, apparently to denote the writer's estimate of the same. The document was dated from the office of the said Society, 15 Buckingham Street, was marked 'Confidential,' and bore the names, 'C. B. P. Bosanquet, Sec., and C. J. Ribton-Turner, Org. Sec.' It was as follows:—'Re Miss Stride's Homes.—In answer to numerous inquirers, they are strongly recommended not to give anything to the so-called Homes. Having had reason to form an unfavourable opinion of Miss Stride a few months ago, our charity agent was sent to No. 17, Hart Street. His investigation was most unsatisfactory, and since then a strict watch has been kept over her, and this has been the means from time to time of suppressing large sums of money intended for her, and giving the money to worthier objects; and the following is her history:—About seven years ago she was in the employ of the Midnight Meeting movement, but was discharged for incompetency. She next obtained a situation as a mission woman in the Reformatory and Refuge Union, but was discharged for misconduct. Accompanied by her friend the Rev. George Hough, chaplain of Millbank Prison, she applied to a police magistrate for relief, when, through Hough's gross misrepresentations, the magistrate gave her money out of the poor-boxes, and the daily press pleaded her cause. The result was, they received nearly £5,000. A house was taken in Hart Street and magnificently furnished, where Stride and Hough lived together, with their connections, and two or three fallen women for servants, the whole of the public subscriptions being squandered in the most extravagant and expensive style of living. A Bill was introduced by us into the House by Lord Shaftesbury to amend the present vague laws, but was withdrawn on account of its being too late in the Session. At the commencement of an approaching Session it will be reintroduced, and as soon as it becomes law summary proceedings will be taken to close the so-called "Homes" and to remove Hough from the chaplaincy of Millbank.' It was hardly necessary to say that Miss Stride was ready to court the fullest investigation. Mr. Hough, who was chaplain of the Westminster House of Correction, not of Millbank, was also ready to come forward and deny the imputations cast upon him. Messrs. Humphries & Morgan sent one of their representatives to call upon Mr. Ribton-Turner, the Organising Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society, and he repudiated all knowledge of the circular, and the following letter had been subsequently received from him in reply to a letter from those gentlemen:—

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., accompanied by a copy of a printed document containing statements with regard to Miss Stride's Home, and professing to emanate from this office.

I have to-day laid them before the Administrative Committee of this Society, and they direct me to inform you that the document in question is spurious, that it has not been issued from this office, and that neither the Committee nor their officers know anything with regard to its authorship.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant (signed), C. J. Ribton-Turner, Organising Secretary.

As there was no clue to the printer of the libel, he feared Miss Stride could obtain no redress, and would have to be contented with the observations he had made.

Mr. Flowers regretted to have heard the statement of Mr. Giffard, and hoped sincerely that the writer of the libel would be found and brought to justice. If the author were not a coward, he would come forward like a man and accept the responsibility which she had challenged him to assume.

BLIND CHILDREN IN BOARD SCHOOLS.—We learn from the *Metropolitan* that at the meeting of the School Board on the 17th inst., a report was brought up from the School Management Committee, stating that the Board on the 15th April, 1874, had resolved that a circular letter should be addressed to the divisional committees, instructing them to take steps to induce blind children to attend the Board schools, and, when such children were in attendance, to notify the fact to the Society for Providing Home Teaching for the Blind (Home Teaching Society for the Blind), in order that the special education of the children might be provided for. The School Management Committee had recently had under consideration a report from the above society, and had also had an interview with the Secretary, Mr. G. Martin Tait, as to the result of the action taken under the above resolution. By the census returns for 1871, after deducting the children attending at the Blind Institutions, there could not be less than 120 blind children above five years of age in London, 80 of whom were on the books of the society, and were receiving regular visitation and instruction; 13 of the number being in attendance at Board schools, and 14 at other day-schools. Mr. Tait had undertaken to furnish the committee with the names of the children already at schools, which information would place the School Management Committee in a position to make a reference to the Bye-laws Committee with a view to further steps being taken with regard to the children not attending school. The committee, and also Mr. Tait, were of opinion that it would be well for the Board to appoint a teacher to visit at their several schools the blind children now at Board schools, and also those that might attend after further action had been taken, for the purpose of giving them the technical instruction which ordinary teachers are not qualified to impart. The committee therefore recommend that they might be empowered to authorise Mr. Tait to nominate a suitable teacher for appointment by the Board, at a salary of 30s. a week, exclusive of travelling expenses. The Rev. J. Rodgers gave notice of motion, in accordance with the recommendation of the committee.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

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No. 133.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 7, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICES TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The Stepney and Mile End Old Town Committee have given up their office at 45 Portland Street, and have opened an office at 598 Commercial Road E., near the Stepney Station, for Stepney cases, and a second office at 116 Mile End Road for Mile End cases.

The meetings of the St. Saviour's Committee are now held at their office, No. 9 St. George's Circus, S.E., and not at the Vestry Hall.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, *Kensington Committee*; W. Mussared, Esq., E. Waller, Esq., *Fulham*; Major Yard, Sir R. M. Stephenson, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord W. Compton, Major Prendergast, Major H. A. Sanford, Major C. C. FitzRoy, P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., *St. George's*; Capt. Elliot, R.N., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., *St. Marylebone*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., K.C.B., Major-General Bainbrigge, R.E., S. Fuller, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 30. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from the St. George's Committee, pointing out that as the days lengthened more hands were likely to be required in the manufacturing districts.

The St. George's Committee, though they have no longer any money fund for migration purposes, yet have a fund of information which will be at the service of any Committee having suitable cases to recommend, viz. widows with children of a certain age.

It was stated that to render a family suitable there should be at least three children between the ages of eight and eighteen capable of working.

A letter was read from Mr. Edgecombe, stating that Miss Merington, who had long acted as one of the Hon. Secretaries of the Kensington Committee, was a candidate for the office of Guardian.

The Secretary mentioned that Miss Collett, one of the Hon. Secretaries of the St. Paneras South Committee, was also a candidate in her parish.

## CERTIFICATES.

A letter was read from the Reading Charity Organisation Society, stating that a man had recently applied for relief at their office, and had produced a certificate from a District

Committee, stating that he was deserving of employment. The Reading Society had communicated with the metropolitan Committee concerned, and had learnt that the paper was given to the man as a recommendation for employment at certain works. He had not applied at these, and appeared to have used the letter for begging purposes.

The Secretary stated that the Administrative Committee agreed with the Reading Society in thinking this a good illustration of the inconvenience of putting a recommendation into the hands of an applicant, and had recommended them, in reply to a question, to detain any such recommendation in future until they had communicated with the person or Committee said to have given it.

## WHITECHAPEL AND ST. GEORGE'S EAST.

The Secretary reported that separate Committees had been formed for the Whitechapel Union and for St. George-in-the-East, but that the Committees would continue to use the same office, 194 Commercial Road E.; that the Rev. Harry Jones had been elected Chairman, and Mr. W. M. Alexander, Hon. Secretary of the St. George-in-the-East Committee; and that the Hon. C. W. Fremantle had been elected Chairman, and C. L. Corkran, Esq., and C. Lavers Smith, Esq., Representatives of the Whitechapel Committee.

Also that several Committees had notified their re-election of their Representatives.

## BOARDING OUT AND PAUPER SCHOOLS.

Sir Charles Trevelyan presented copies of Miss Smedley's book upon 'Boarding-out and Pauper Schools,' for transmission to the District Committees. He stated that it contained the principal papers on both sides of the question, and might be regarded in its general purport as a protest against the prevailing tendency to relax or obliterate the divine institution of the family by artificial human institutions, such as outdoor relief and indiscriminate charity, and what Miss Smedley called the 'Monster School System,' developed in the shape of vast pauper schools and middle-class orphanages; the injurious influence of these last was aggravated in most cases by the circumstance that admission to them depended not upon an investigation and comparison of claims, but upon the result of an expensive and uncertain canvass.

## QUESTIONS.

The Secretary asked whether any of the District Committees besides Chelsea and St. George's knew anything of a Mrs. Kieran. Mrs. Kieran appeared to have the manners and education of a lady, and sometimes introduced herself by applying for assistance for another person.

Major FitzRoy asked whether it was considered that an annual grant of money to a widow for five or six years, to buy clothes for her children to enable them to attend school, was 'such temporary assistance as would be permanently useful.' He illustrated his question by cases that had come before his Committee.



The Chairman thought that each such case must be dealt with with reference to its special circumstances, and to the present year.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the two weeks ending March 27 the receipts had been £35. 16s. for the General Fund, and £23 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £1,070. 10s. 10d. and £199. 3s. 9d. respectively.

Also that a letter had been received from a gentleman in Norfolk, enclosing a memorandum form purporting to be issued from the Central Office of the Charity Organisation, and to be a request that an overdue subscription might be forwarded to a private address in the City; and that they had instructed the Organising Secretary to ascertain the origin of this application.

The Organising Secretary handed in a report, from which it appeared that some memorandum forms, with printed headings, of a kind used by the Council five years ago, had been accidentally delivered to a firm in the City by the printers who then served the Society. The clerks of this firm had amused themselves by sending several of these out to acquaintances of their own, with requests for payment of subscriptions alleged to have been promised. Much trouble and annoyance had been caused, but there did not appear to have been any fraudulent intent.

#### INQUIRIES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

A statement as to inquiries from the Central Office, with specimen cases, was brought up in proof, and ordered to be printed as Appendix VI. in the Annual Report.

The Secretary explained that, in pursuance of orders to that effect, only 500 copies of the Annual Report had been printed, in order that this statement might be added. Copies of the Annual Report would now be sent to all subscribers to the Council.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

A debt of £10 due from the Islington Committee was remitted.

Major FitzRoy suggested that the word 'Supervision' should be introduced into the next recommendation of the Administrative Committee. The Sub-Committee in question would supervise inquiries, but would not itself inquire.

The recommendation was adopted in the following form:—

That the work of the Supervision Sub-Committee be limited to the inquiry department of the Organising Secretary's work, and that the Committee be called the Inquiry Supervision Sub-Committee.

#### ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were re-elected 'Additional Members' of Council, on Sir A. Gordon's motion, for the coming twelve months:—

Sir Rutherford Alcock, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, Dr. Hawksley, and Messrs. Blount, Willis-Bund, Fuller, Hicks, Hughes, Phillips Jodrell, Miner, and Wightman-Wood.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

Major FitzRoy moved, in the absence of Mr. J. R. Hollond, that the following members be placed on the Administrative Committee for the coming year:—

Lord William Compton, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Sir Alexander Gordon, Major Prendergast, Major Yard, Major FitzRoy, Rev. H. I. Cummins, Miss Collett, and Messrs. Douglas Brown, Edcombe, Hensley, Hollond, Martin, Peters, Roberts, and Waller.

It was stated that all members of Council were free to attend and vote, but that it was necessary to have a list of names, to promote attendance, and to limit the number of notices when special notices had to be sent.

It being past 5 p.m., Mr. A. H. Hill asked leave to postpone calling the attention of the Council to the question of providing help by employment.

Mr. Fuller suggested that it would be advantageous if the District Committees would consider the subject first.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the two weeks ending Saturday April 3, 1875:—*Donations*: Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart., £5; F. Willis & Sons, £2. 2s. *Quarterly*: Hon. W. W. Vernon, £5. *Annual*: Sir George Baker, £1. 1s.; Miss McClean, £5. 5s.; G. F. Duncombe, Esq., £2; Rev. C. N. Edgington, £1. 1s.; Capt. R. C. Mayne, R.N., £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., £10.

The following business stands for Monday, April 12:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee—

That a grant not exceeding £43 be made to the South St. Pancras Committee.

Mr. A. H. Hill to call attention to the Report of the Sub-Committee on Employment, and to make suggestions as to the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE TWO WEEKS ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	2	3	10	15	..	..	2	2	2	1	..	..	3	20	5	7	14
Fulham .....	2	3	..	5	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	7	5	4	10
Paddington .....	1	2	7	10	..	4	..	4	11	1	8	1	21	35	28	5	..
Chelsea .....	2	..	..	2	1	1	3	5	..	1	1	..	2	9	17	4	1
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	1	1	5	7	..	4	3	7	5	1	..	1	7	53	24	7	1
Westminster do.	3	6	6	15	..	..	4	4	9	3	..	1	13		4	4	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	1	1	3	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	8	20
St. Marylebone .....	9	1	12	22	..	13	7	20	8	3	..	..	11	53	11	16	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	4	2	6	9	2	3	1
South St. Pancras ....	2	2	3	7	..	1	3	4	..	2	..	..	2	13	7	7	4
*Islington .....	..	4	..	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	3	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	8	1	2	..
Strand .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	5	1	1	..
Holborn .....	2	..	2	4	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	1	7	11	23	2
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	25	..
Shoreditch .....	1	..	4	5	..	..	3	3	3	1	..	..	4	12	1	6	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	..	2	1	..	1	2	2	2	..	2	6	10	3	3	..
Whitechapel and St. George's-in-the-East.	9	3	13	25	..	5	2	7	1	1	2	1	5	37	9	5	..
Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town .....	5	..	4	9	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	11	11	11	..
Poplar .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	..	4	5	..	6	1	7	..	1	..	..	1	13	4	3	1
Newington .....	1	2	2	5	1	..	1	2	4	..	..	..	4	11	4	7	..
St. Olave's .....	2	2	3	7	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	10	4	2	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	1	7	8	..	..	2	2	1	..	..	..	1	12	5	4	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1		1	2	2
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	3	5	3	10
Battersea .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	1	1	1	2	..	2	5	9	..	4	1
Clapham .....	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	9	4	3	23
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	4	4	2	5	..	7	8	..	..	..	8	26	..	1	..
Peckham .....	..	..	3	3	..	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	2		..	2	..
Greenwich .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	4	6	3	2	13
Deptford .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	9	1	..	1	11	12	2	3	6
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	10
Lewisham .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	6	8	9	8	..	25
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Sydenham .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	7
Total .....	47	35	109	191	6	49	36	91	78	31	16	17	142	424	187	181	171

\* No return received from this Committee, at the time of going to press, for the week ending April 3.

#### COMING MEETING.

FULHAM.—The Annual Meeting of the Fulham and Hammersmith Committee will be held at the Latymer School, King Street East, Hammersmith, on Tuesday, April 20, at 8 p.m.; W. Gordon, Esq., M.P., in the chair.



## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**CITY OF LONDON.**—The annual meeting of the supporters of this committee was held on Wednesday, March 24, at the Cannon-street Hotel, Mr. Francis Peek, one of the representatives of the City on the London School Board, being called to preside in the place of the Right Honourable G. J. Goschen, M.P., who was absent on account of illness. There were present, amongst others, Sir James Hamilton, Sir Macdonald Stephenson, Sir Antonio Brady, the Revs. H. I. Cummins, R. J. Simpson, Harvey Brooks, M. S. A. Walrond, Pascoe G. Hill, Messrs. H. B. Praed, M.P., J. M. Corrie, Hamilton Hoare, and R. Walker.

The Chairman after saying that he deeply regretted the absence of Mr. Goschen, proceeded to call attention to the report, which, he said, he did not regard as satisfactory for the City of London, as the sum of £394 was all that had been received during the year. This seemed a very inadequate amount for the City of London, but then, it might be answered, 'there were very few poor in the City.' This was, to a certain extent, the case; but there was an important reason for the existence of the Society in the City in the fact that a very large number of inquiries respecting applicants for relief was necessary. These inquiries came from all quarters, and it was absolutely necessary that the cases should be inquired into, for there was a sum of money given away in so-called charity, one-third of which, after proper inquiry, would be more effective than the whole sum was now. (Hear, hear.) The Charity Organisation Society came into being because it was found by those who investigated cases of so-called distress, that the large amounts of money given away by charitable people without investigation did more harm than good; that under the system of indiscriminate alms-giving to the undeserving, beggars and impostors flourished, and the deserving poor drooped further into decay and misery, unknown and unheard of. In the neighbourhood of the Crystal Palace, where he lived, the place being infested with beggars a few years ago—beggars who were dangerous as well as annoying—the same system had been adopted, and with excellent effect, not only with regard to the beggars in the thoroughfares, but in regard to the pauperising influences, such as soup kitchens, set to work in all the poor places which fringe on rich neighbourhoods, and which had so acted in the district surrounding the Crystal Palace as to make the poor places nests of impostors. When he first went to live in the Norwood district, five years ago, he set about organising a Charity Organisation Society, and his efforts being warmly responded to, the committee were able to obtain an efficient officer, to whom a high salary was paid—such a salary as should be paid to a superior man (hear, hear)—and in twelve months hardly a beggar was to be found there; in five years he himself had only met some five beggars there. (Cheers.) If beggars strayed down there they strayed away again, but the deserving poor were encouraged to make their wants known, and, as the report of the Society showed, the work was intended to be so effective that it should be impossible for a beggar to live, or for a deserving person to suffer the extremity of want. (Cheers.) As to this particular branch for the City of London, the question would arise, was it necessary to have a branch there at all? His own experience, as a member of the London School Board, showed him that it was necessary. (Hear.) Though there was a comparatively small number of very poor people in the City of London, he knew that there existed within its precincts extreme poverty and penury. (Hear.) People were brought before him as one of the local committee for not sending their children to school, and he found in the cases which he thus investigated so much suffering as made the heart bleed. Talk about summoning these people for not sending their children to school! why he must say he wondered how they got on as well as they did, and the result was, that he had only sent seven cases before the magistrates. The poor needed advice; their ignorance was something amazing, and they got into a state of torpor, from which they could only be aroused by the personal efforts of the humane, who must not be above giving their assistance to tell the poor how they should overcome this difficulty or that trouble. No one society could erase all this or deal with these multiplied evils; but this Society in its work was a great lever to this end. We had first to get rid of the imposture which existed, next to insure that before relief was given there should be inquiry. Then there should be committees of persons of the higher classes who were willing to go down into these poor districts, and take these poor creatures by the hand. No amount of mere money would remedy the misery which existed—it would, indeed, make matters worse, for money was useless to this end, without time and without showing to the poor by personal intercourse that the desire was to raise them. The bestowal of a few coppers here and there, the charity of some, was useless as an assistance to the poor, but they appreciated the efforts of all who endeavoured to enter into their sufferings and considered the best way of raising them from a state of dependence. He hoped that what had been found necessary and possible elsewhere would be found possible in the City of London, so that an endeavour might be made to remove from this rich centre the reproach that the most grinding misery existed in the midst of this wealth. There ought not to be a single pauper or a single case of extreme misery in this City. It was to be hoped that this meeting would be the commencement of a new life for the Charity Organisation

Society here—and that hereafter it might be said of the City that 'it is impossible for the impostor or beggar to live, or for a really deserving person to suffer the extremity of want.' (Cheers.)

Mr. H. B. Praed, M.P., moved the adoption of the report. This, he said, did not show much money given away, but the societies which gave away the most money did not always do the most good. The Society after investigating the cases of poor persons was able to direct them to the right sources of help. As there were in the City large numbers of bequests, it might appear as if the poor were amply provided for—and, indeed, they were perhaps too amply provided for—the only thing necessary being a perfect system of inquiry. It was necessary that the Charity Organisation Society should apply its system to the City as well as to the other parts of the Metropolis, for if the City were left out of the system it would be like a broken cog in the machine. He spoke from his own experience as a banker of the need of the Society. Formerly his firm were glad to give in order to get rid of an applicant, but now they only gave after investigation, and had found this of great advantage. He also urged firms to send their hospital letters to the Society, who, he said, would place them in right hands and so prevent the traffic in them.

Mr. Hamilton Hoare, who was received with cheers, seconded the motion. He pointed out that Thomas Carlyle had spoken of the Poor Law Act of 1834 as being altogether in a negative direction, and had indicated the need of some agency of a more positive character, such as the Charity Organisation Society now was. The speaker described the various divisions of the wage-earning class, and pointed out that below the section of working men who could have the advantages of benefit societies, and the dubious advantages of trades unions, were those who occasionally fell under one of the two agencies—the Poor Law or charity. The Poor Law dealt with utter destitution—often hopeless destitution, but the Charity Organisation dealt with merit and with cases in which there was hope. He urged the need of enforcing provident habits upon the poor, and concluded by saying that the purpose of the Society was to make charity more real, and to import into the action of charity giving and receiving the important principle of truth.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Rev. H. I. Cummins proposed the second resolution—

That this meeting pledges itself to support the objects of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy, and is of opinion that it is desirable to have an efficient working committee of the Society in the City of London.

He said that he had a claim to speak on the question, as he had been incumbent of a City parish for 21 years. With a few intervals, too, he had been guardian of the poor for nearly the same time, and since this Committee had been in existence, he had been actively connected with it. He read the following extract from the report:—

The experience of the last two years has convinced them that, as compared with other Districts, there is little actual destitution among the resident population of the City not met by the ordinary machinery of the Poor Law, but that what does exist does not come generally before the public gaze.

This might cause surprise, and there might be fear that there was some depth of poverty which was not yet discovered; but it was the fact that the prominent actual poverty was met by the Poor Law adequately and entirely; still there were cases in which people would die sooner than tell their distress to parish officers or guardians. He called attention to the startling fact, lately stated by Mr. Hedley, Poor-law Inspector, at the City of London Board of Guardians, that one in twelve of the resident population of the City was in receipt of Poor-law relief, as against about four per cent. throughout England, and in some parts only two per cent. Even this was not all, for the numerous charities in the City were the almoners of about £33,000 a year left for 'residents,' a sum about equal to the Poor-law relief. He urged that this ought not to be allowed to continue, and he appealed for personal help—not as almoners, but as personal advisers of the poor. He believed that the proportion receiving assistance might thus be materially reduced. He concluded an earnest and practical speech by drawing attention to the fact that Mr. Peek had offered to give £1,000 a year for three years to the Society, in order to enable it to deal with cases of distress which came before members of the School Board.

The Rev. Pascoe Hill seconded the motion, but asked if the Society denied the statement recently made at the Bow Street Police Court in connection with a libel on Miss Stride.

The Chairman said the Society entirely repudiated the libel. (Cheers.)

Mr. Ward asked if the Society had anything to do with the Charity Voting Reform Association.

The Chairman said that the Charity Voting Reform Association was an altogether separate body from the Charity Organisation Society. His own opinion was, that the Association was theoretically right but practically wrong.

The Rev. H. I. Cummins said that personally he agreed with Mr. Ward. He could not see his way to any better system, though there were evils connected with the voting system. The Council of the Society had considered the subject of charity voting in 1872; in doing this they had not gone beyond their province as a society for organising charity; they had passed a resolution and then they had left the matter.

Mr. Bosanquet, as secretary to the Council, explained with regard to Miss



Stride that about two years ago an assistant secretary of the Society, a gentleman by birth and manners, had had occasion to call on Miss Stride about a matter not relating to her own charity. The Society had, however, had inquiries addressed to them about Miss Stride's Home, and the gentleman who waited upon Miss Stride suggested to her that it would be well if she would print a statement showing the money received and expended. He left her quite amicably, but afterwards heard that Miss Stride was dissatisfied with his call, and subsequently Miss Stride published a letter in the *Evening Standard*, saying she thought the interview unnecessary. The Council replied in the same paper, stating what had passed, and that there was no intention of giving offence to Miss Stride. (Hear, hear.) Nothing had occurred beyond that; the Society had certainly not set any one to watch the Home, and with regard to this libel they were as much taken by surprise as anyone else when shown the paper purporting to be issued by the Council. As to charity voting, the Council had stated what its position was in its fifth annual report. It had taken no part in forming the Charity Voting Reform Association, though many of its members belonged to it.

The committee and officers were re-elected; and thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

WANDSWORTH AND PUTNEY.—*Begging Letters*.—At the Wandsworth Police Court, on Friday, the 2nd inst. (says the *Daily Telegraph*), Samuel Smith, a gunmaker, living in Wandsworth, was brought up on remand, charged with attempting to obtain money by false pretences from Mr. Horace Broke, barrister, 14 Hyde-park Square, Paddington.—It was stated by Mr. Haynes, who appeared for the prosecution, instructed by the above Committee, that there was a case in which money had been obtained.—Mr. M. F. Wykeham-Martin, of Brighton, said that on the 14th of March last he received a letter stating, 'I should not take the liberty, but I have a distress in the house for £5 for rent, and I shall lose all if it is not paid by Tuesday next.' It was signed Samuel Smith, late Samuel and Charles Smith, gunmakers, 64 Prince's Street, Leicester Square. Witness's father in his lifetime dealt with that firm. In consequence of the statement in the letter witness sent a cheque for a sovereign.—Edward Redwood, an appraiser, of Wandsworth, stated that the prisoner was his tenant. On the 24th of December last he levied a distress for rent on his goods, but it was paid in a few days afterwards. The letter was in the prisoner's handwriting.—The letter received by Mr. Broke was in the same handwriting, and was to the same effect. He did not send any money, but he placed it in the hands of the Charity Organisation Society for inquiry.—Mr. Broke said he formerly dealt with the firm, which became bankrupt.—In reply to the charge, the prisoner pleaded that, at the time he wrote the letters, he was not aware he was committing himself, as he was addressing old customers of his father's and some of his own. He had no intention of obtaining the money fraudulently, and he intended to pay it back.—Mr. Ingham committed him for trial.

#### NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD PROVIDENT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

We learn from the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, that a meeting was held in the Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, last week, in connection with this Society, the plan of which was described in the *Reporter* for November 4, 1874. The Chairman (Rev. Rowland East) pointed out the importance to the community of enabling men to obtain medical advice, as a matter of right, instead of their having to seek it as a favour. This could be secured by a moderate payment to an institution based on the co-operative principle. To become a member of the Newcastle and Gateshead Society, a man had to pay 3s. per week per year only; if his wife became a member 3s. per year more; and 1s. additional for each child. While they were unable to do without other institutions in the town, among them the Infirmary, the Convalescent Home, the Dispensary, and the Hospital for Sick Children—none of which, for a moment, would he underrate—yet it was not a pleasant thing for persons to be indebted to these institutions. It was better that a man should make an arrangement to pay for medical assistance just as he paid for his clothing, his bedding, or the education of his children. (Applause.) The Newcastle and Gateshead Society was only four months old, but still everything has a beginning, and they must not despise the day of small things. There were now about 1,500 members; but in order that the society might be put in motion, 1,500 more would be required. After careful calculation, and a careful examination of other institutions of the kind, it was thought that a medical man would be able to take under his charge about 3,000 people. The Chairman concluded by commending the society to careful consideration and support.

The Rev. W. B. East read letters of apology from the Mayor of Gateshead (G. Charlton, Esq.) and from Mr. Joseph Cowen, M.P., who expressed their heartiest sympathy with the society, and wished it wider-spread success and prosperity than had been given to it or any other society of the kind. A letter had also been received from Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., who with the greatest reluctance had been compelled to forego the pleasure of being present, because of the pressure of other duties. Of all the institutions in this town there was none, Mr. East added, with which Mr. Burt more cordially sympathised. The hon. secretary then submitted the proposition, 'That this Provident Medical Society is to be approved of be-

cause it is an extension of the Friendly Societies' principles.' He was convinced that a society which sought to ameliorate as much as possible the dangers and inconveniences of sickness among the working classes would in a short time meet with the approval of all who thought upon these matters.

Mr. Hamond, M.P., who was received with applause, moved the following resolution:—'The average death-rate of Newcastle, as compared with other towns of a similar character, warrants the formation of a society similar to the one we have met this evening to support.' For some years past, he said, the death-rate of this town, as in all places in the same position, having a large manufacturing and working population, had varied very considerably, sometimes being high, sometimes moderate, but never so low as it should be. That being so, it was right and proper, it was just, it was a duty to themselves and families as far as lay in their power, to lessen this mortality by the formation of societies such as the one which they were met to inaugurate. (Hear, hear.) Let them be provident and frugal in their characters, and above all things let them inculcate among themselves those habits of self-reliance which would render them as independent in the obtaining of a medical attendant as they were in other things.

The Vicar of Newcastle seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Holmes next moved—'That the Provident Medical Society of this town merits the encouragement and support of all thoughtful men.' Mr. Scholefield seconded the motion, which was likewise carried unanimously.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of March 1875 was 36,230, and 60,855 received out-door relief, making a total of 97,085. This was a decrease of 1,069 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,395, 19,564, and 21,190 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 370. This was a decrease of 51 on the return for the last day of the preceding week.

MISS STRIDE.—At the Bow Street Police Court on Saturday, March 27, Mr. George Lewis, jun., attended before Mr. Flowers, in company with Mr. Ribton Turner, and made the following statement:—He said that the Society of course had nothing to do with the publication of the libellous paper of which Mr. Giffard, on behalf of Miss Stride, had complained; but he (Mr. Lewis) desired it to be known that the Society had done their best in endeavouring to discover the author of the pamphlet. They had offered a reward of £10 to any person giving information about the author, and had requested any persons receiving copies of the said libel to forward them to the Society. No copies, however, had been sent, and it might be inferred that there was only one copy printed, and that that was sent to Miss Stride. Mr. Flowers said he was pleased to hear what Mr. Lewis had to say, although Mr. Giffard had himself shown that the Society repudiated the matter.

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PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The sample sheets of the revised books and forms have been sent out to the District Committees and the Affiliated Associations, and to a few other provincial societies.

The St. Olave's Committee have altered their office-hours from 11 to 1 to 12 to 2.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord W. Compton, Major Prendergast, Major Sanford, *St. George's*; Capt. Elliot, R.N., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Right Rev. Bishop Beckles, D.D., J. Sapsford, Esq., *Bethnal Green*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., *St. Saviour's, South-west*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., K.C.B., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., S. Fuller, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 30. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*.

## TEMPORARY RELIEF.

A letter from the St. George's Committee was read, enclosing a typical case, and asking whether, in the opinion of the Council, Committees should give relief in such cases to enable the children to go to school. The woman in question had been deserted six years ago by her husband, had two children, and asked for 30s. to purchase clothing and boots for them, as they could not attend school regularly for want of clothing.

The woman is of good character, and, looking to the fact that she is unable to be away from home the whole day, appears to earn as much as can reasonably be expected. The amount of her earnings, though sufficient to keep herself and family, so far as bare maintenance goes, without assistance from the parish, is insufficient to allow her to pay down a lump sum of money to provide her children with clothes and shoes to attend school. The Committee cannot, however, say that the gift of clothes would permanently benefit the case, as it would not enable the woman in any way to renew them when worn out.

It was agreed that the question should be considered at the next meeting.

## REPRESENTATIVES.

The Secretary reported that the Fulham Committee had elected the Rev. H. Hayman and Mr. W. Mussard; that the Battersea Committee had elected Mr. Arthur Leveson Gower, and Mr. Frederick Green; that the Camberwell Committee had elected Mr. C. W. Chute and Mr. Edgar Hyde, and that several other Committees had re-elected their Representatives.

Sir Charles Trevelyan presented, on behalf of the late Mr. William Gibbs, a consolidated edition of the two pamphlets on the City Parochial Charities, published by Sir Charles in 1869 and 1871. Sir Charles stated that this was one of the last subjects in which Mr. Gibbs, who was so well known as a Christian philanthropist, interested himself, and the expense of the edition was paid by him. He thought it full time that attention should again be called to the magnificent fund, which, although belonging of right to the poorer inhabitants of London, who have been squeezed out of its ancient centre by the pressure of wealth and trade, and capable of being applied in many ways to their material, moral, and intellectual improvement, was, for the most part, misappropriated for the benefit of the rich in connection with a local parochial system which had long ceased to have any substantial existence. Sir Charles suggested that two copies of the pamphlet should be sent to each District Committee, and he also presented a copy of a Parochial Map of the City, the original compilation and publication of which, he said, had cost a large sum, but which might now be re-engraved at a moderate cost.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending April 3, the receipts had been £14. 7s. for the General Fund, £10 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £1,083. 17s. 5d. and £209. 3s. 9d. respectively.

Also that they had been informed by the Stepney and Mile End Committee that the parish of St. Philip's, Stepney, would in future form part of the Stepney, and not of the White-chapel District, and that it had been resolved that, as a step towards the separation of the Stepney and Mile End Old Town Districts, the business relating to the two Districts should be transacted at separate offices. (See Notice in last week's Reporter.)

Also that Charity Organisation Associations had been formed at Leamington and Saffron Walden.



## MR. PEEK'S OFFER.

Replies were reported from several Committees to the circular recently sent to them with reference to Mr. Peek's offer, and it was ordered that they should be brought up together for consideration on Monday the 26th inst.

Consideration of the proposed grant to South St. Pancras was postponed at the request of the Hon. Secretary.

## RELATIONS OF THE SOCIETY TO HELP BY EMPLOYMENT.

Mr. A. H. Hill called attention to the Report of the Subcommittee on Employment, 1871. There was a great demand for labour then, and there was considerable demand for it now, but there were almost insuperable difficulties in getting the supply to meet the demand, owing chiefly to dislike to migration. This indicated that the desire of persons for work within a certain area must not be humoured. There was no need of large institutions to train children to work; children could now be absorbed in the labour-market as soon as they were old enough. There was great need of distributing labour, but this should be done commercially; charitable action always tended to congest it. The District Committees should not give men help to enable them 'to better themselves.' Men should do this for themselves. There was a tendency to introduce patronage instead of competition. Very little could be given in most cases beyond information. There should be careful investigation of the applicant's circumstances, and especially of the earnings of all members of his family, before any industrial help was given. Loafers should be very hardly dealt with. There were hardly any unemployed men who might not be gradually absorbed, if they would submit to hard conditions, such as Trade Societies insisted on their members submitting to. The Society should aim at compelling nondescripts to become real workers, and should not ask employers to take men on as a favour. Some of the best migration cases he had known were cases of men who had walked from London. He would move:—

That work should be treated as the best form of relief, but only accorded, as in all other cases, after the fullest investigation into the circumstances of the applicant.

After a short conversation the adjournment of the discussion was moved by Mr. Willis-Bund and agreed to.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday April 10, 1875:—*Donations*: 'Anonymous,' £10.; Mrs. Backhouse, £10.; The Brewer's Company, £15. 15s.; Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy, M.P., £9; J. T. Ingham, Esq. (from the Wandsworth Poor Box), £10; J. A. Kingdon, Esq., £1. 1s.; Major Lenox Prendergast, £2. *Annual*: Marrant Baker, Esq., £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: M. J. F. £2.

The following business stands for Monday, April 19:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee—

1. That a grant not exceeding £43 be made to the South St. Pancras Committee.

2. That a grant of £84 be made to the Stepney and Mile End Old Town Committee.

To consider a question submitted for the opinion of the Council by the St. George's Committee. See letter *supra*.

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment.

## COMING MEETING.

FULHAM.—The Annual Meeting of the Fulham and Hammersmith Committee will be held at the Latymer School, King Street East, Hammersmith, on Tuesday, April 20, at 8 p.m.; W. Gordon, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

CHARITIES FOR WOMEN.—The *Labour News* of last week contains the first of a series of articles by 'L. M. H.' 'On Charitable and other Institutions for the Benefit of Women.'

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with		
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment					Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	5	8	9	22	..	..	..	..	6	2	..	..	8	30	8	2	3
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	2	3	6
Paddington .....	5	2	3	10	..	3	1	4	7	..	4	1	12	26	20	2	..
Chelsea .....	2	..	..	2	..	3	1	4	1	1	..	4	6	12	10	2	3
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	1	1	1	3	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	25	8	4	..
Westminster do.	1	..	5	6	..	2	3	5	6	..	2	8	8		..	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	2	2	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	5	12
St. Marylebone .....	2	..	..	2	..	4	6	10	1	2	..	3	6	18	3	4	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
South St. Pancras .....	2	1	4	7	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	10	1	2	1	..
Islington .....	2	1	1	4	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	6	8	5	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	7	..	4	..	..
Strand .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	4	2	..
Holborn .....	2	..	1	3	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	2	6	7	10	1	..
City .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	10	..	..
Shoreditch .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	1	..
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	2	3	..	1	1	2	1	..	1	2	7	3	..	..	..
Whitechapel .....	2	..	2	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	..
St. George's-in-the-East	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Stepney Union & Mile End Old Town	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poplar .....	1	2	..	3	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	..
St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..
Lambeth:— { North .....	2	..	4	6	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	10	..	2	..	..
Lambeth:— { South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Battersea .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	2	3	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	1	13	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	2	2	4	..	3	..	3	2	..	..	2	11	..	2	..	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4	..	3	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	1	1	5	..	..	5	9	..	..	10	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	1	3	..
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	2	5	..	..
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	..	9	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total .....	30	18	51	99	1	21	18	40	41	16	4	14	75	214	84	78	81

\* No returns received from these Committees at the time of going to press.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fifth week of March 1875 was 36,089, and 59,893 received out-door relief, making a total of 95,982. This was a decrease of 1,103 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 10,428, 20,667, and 22,293 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 395. This was an increase of 25 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 145 on the corresponding day of last year.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

ST. GEORGE'S.—*False Pretences*.—At the Westminster Police Court, on Thursday, the 8th inst., Robert Wylie, 56, a labourer, who had been convicted of attempting to defraud the charitable, was charged at the instance of this Committee with obtaining 2s. by false and fraudulent pretences from Mrs. de Rothschild, of 6, Buckingham-gate. It appeared from the evidence that some days ago the prisoner called upon Mrs. de Rothschild, and presented a letter stating that he had been discharged from the hospital very recently, had a wife and children in the country, and wished for assistance to take him there. Inquiries being made, his story was found to be untrue. The prisoner repeatedly called for an answer, the last time being yesterday morning, when, after receiving 2s. from the housekeeper, he was apprehended. The prisoner said the money was taken out of his hand; he never put it in his pocket. Davis, the warrant officer, said the prisoner had been convicted before of a similar offence, and sentenced to six months' hard labour. Mr. Woolrych said he should convict the prisoner and send him to the Sessions to be sentenced by the Judge as an incorrigible rogue.



WANDSWORTH AND PUTNEY.—*Begging Letters*.—Samuel Smith, 35, gun-maker, was indicted at the Surrey Sessions for obtaining from Mr. Malcolm Fiennes Wykeham Martin, residing at Brighton, a cheque for £1 by false pretences. The facts of the case, which were reported in our last week's issue, having been proved, the jury found the prisoner guilty. Mr. E. Clark, who appeared for the Committee, said there was another indictment, but after the verdict he did not propose to go into it. The prosecution was by the Charity Organisation Society, and he handed up a number of letters which the prisoner had received from gentlemen enclosing remittances.—The Chairman said he had no doubt of the prisoner's guilt or of the usefulness of the Charity Organisation Society. There were letters from Sir J. Burnett, Sir H. Beecher, and others.—In passing sentence, the learned Chairman said the prisoner had systematically bled the customers of his late father, and the Charity Organisation Society had acted very properly in bringing the case before the public. Mr. Wykeham Martin would probably not have appeared of his own accord, and there were others in the same position. He sentenced the prisoner to twelve months' imprisonment, with labour.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the City Committee.  
Annual Report of the Chester Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity, 1874.  
Annual Report of the Leeds Social Improvement Society, 1874.  
The Sanitary Record for April 3, containing a Paper on Provident Dispensaries, by Alfred J. H. Crespi. 4d.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its seventeenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Dr. Hawksley, Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Messrs. T. Clarke, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The consideration of Head II. was continued, with reference to improvements in the direction of securing permanent employment for the Blind.

Section 4 of Mr. W. Harris's resolution and the preamble were carried after discussion, in the following form:—

'That in order to secure remunerative and regular employment for the trained Blind it is essential: 4. That only the amount actually earned should be paid under the head of wages, and that any further sum granted for the purpose of maintenance or otherwise should be charged to a separate account.'

#### REPORT OF PAROCHIAL COUNCIL OF CHARITY.

The St. Peter's, Eaton Square, Parochial Council have printed the following Report:—

'In presenting a balance-sheet of our receipts and expenditure for 1874, we take the opportunity of calling the attention of our fellow-parishioners to the work which has been done by this Council during the past year, and to the principles upon which that work has been carried out.

'These principles are in effect the same as we have ever professed, and have from time to time set forth in our reports and memoranda.

'I. Our objects have been briefly as follows:—The complete and discriminating relief of all the deserving poor belonging to the parish, the encouragement of thrift and self-reliance, the repression of pauperism and mendicity, and the detection of imposture.

'II. We have endeavoured, by an organised plan of investigation into each case, a registration of all applications, of all particulars resulting from enquiry, and of all relief given, to ensure a just and economical distribution of relief.

'These objects can, as we believe, only be carried out by the concentration of funds under the administration of one council, and are unattainable when such funds flow through various independent channels.

'III. It has been our earnest desire to make a comfortable provision for such of the old and deserving poor of the parish as may, through no fault or improvidence of their own, have been unable to make a sufficient provision for their old age, that they may end their days among us in peace and quietness, without being subject to the demoralising effects which result from being ever on the look-out for tickets or casual doles.

'Of this class of poor we have upon our books 48 cases, comprising (if we take in old married couples) 55 persons, whose qualifications have been rigidly tested on the three essential points of age, residence, and respectability. The total sum expended during the past year upon this especially deserving class of our poor amounts to £615. 6s. The limits which we originally prescribed to ours lives—of 65 years of age and a continuous residence in the parish of seven years—we have been unable to relax, though we would gladly do so in some cases if our funds would permit;

more especially as it would diminish the number of a most distressing class of cases which has caused us much difficulty—cases which, though eminently respectable and deserving of relief, do yet fall so far short of our standard in the other necessary particulars as to disqualify them for the permanent relief which would alone be of use to them.

'We shall be happy to recommend such cases for the private relief for which they are most fitting objects, though we do not feel justified in placing them as a permanent burden on our funds.

'IV. In dealing with temporary cases it is much less easy to lay down definite rules. The urgency of an immediate want may override all law, and each case has to be considered very much upon its own merits. Under this head we have expended the sum of £310. 17s. 11d., though the actual money does not at all express the amount of help which has been given in various ways.

'During the year 1874, 612 applications have been received in behalf of 236 different families. Of these, 477 have been favourably received, and have been assisted either in money or kind, while 135 applications have been rejected as undeserving or unsuitable.

'The largest items under this head will have been as follows:—

'(a) The sums expended upon a class of persons who can generally maintain themselves during the London season, but whose age and infirmity render their employment during the winter months precarious and uncertain.

'(b) Cases of temporary distress, especially if it be the result of the illness of the bread-winner of the family; such cases are liberally relieved whenever the expenditure of such an amount as the Council can afford seems likely to lead to a permanent improvement in their position.

'(c) The medical comforts granted (upon certificate) to those actually ill. The charges upon this last account amount to £115. 16s. 6d.

'Assistance is given solely with reference to the merits of each case without regard to religious distinctions.

'It is, of course, understood that assistance is given *only to the deserving poor*. Those who have by intemperance or misconduct lost their situations, or fallen into want, or who, being able-bodied, are out of work, are referred to the Guardians.

'An office for the Council has been found indispensable, and has been taken at No. 23, Lower Belgrave Street. This has entailed additional expense, but was absolutely necessary for efficient working.

'Meetings are held at the Council Room on Mondays and Thursdays, at 5.45 P.M., when cases are enquired into and dealt with.

'The Honorary Secretary is at the office on these days, at 12.30 P.M., or would attend by appointment, and will be happy to give any information at his disposal.

'The Council request that the case of any parishioner asking alms, or known to be in want, may be referred to them. Their books would often afford valuable information as to the antecedents of an applicant.'

VISITORS' DIFFICULTIES.—'London is a world in itself, and every part of it has something peculiar. This district is different from all my former districts in that it is an island of comparative poverty in the midst of an ocean of wealth. The gentry patronise it, employ it, visit it, and drop the overflowings of their charity into it, yet nowhere have I heard less kindly feelings expressed for the gentry. Much has been written and spoken at various times on the desirability of a greater commingling of rich and poor, and of the rich more frequently taking upon themselves the religious teaching of the poor, and I should be sorry to discourage it. But if not done very wisely it has a corrupting influence. Not every lady with benevolent intentions and the means of fulfilling them is fitted to cope with the London poor. The sight of a rich visitor awakens too often the cupidity of the visited; the poor plead, and the lady sympathises; the spirituality is soon absorbed in the temporality, and the relationship ends at last in a system of petting and patronising on the one side, and in deceiving and phlebotomising on the other; and in this district, in hiring a room, the first question sometimes is, not how much is the rent, but "what sort of a lady visitor have you got?" Thus the merely temporal benefits tend to obscure the spiritual, and to excite a spirit of mendicancy which it is desirable to suppress.'—Report of the Bayswater Missionary in the *City Mission Magazine*.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FOR GIRLS.—We take the following extract from the fourteenth Report of Miss Twining's Industrial Home for Girls:—'The demands from mistresses continue to be far beyond what we can supply, convincing us that no emigration is needed to provide for our surplus population of young girls, were they trained here so as to be fit for service. It is the *incapable* only who now are, or need be, inmates of our workhouses, or burdens on society, and by this we mean all those who have become so either by circumstances of their birth or subsequent misfortunes. In estimating the causes of failure in the various systems of education which have lately been discussed, we cannot help repeating the convictions expressed long ago, that far too little account is taken of the great disadvantages of the evil nature, physical as well as moral, inherited by a large proportion of the girls we have to deal with. The deficiencies of intellec-



tual and moral power, amounting to imbecility in many, the tempers, verging on insanity in various degrees, the purposeless want of will and principle and truthfulness, can surely be traced to a long inheritance of vice, with all its physical and moral results so closely interwoven and inter-lapping, that no one can define the limits of either, and which we are compelled to confess now after many years of experience and labour in this cause, will often prevail so as to defy the most careful training of years. To stop this inheritance, to check the antecedents of vice, and above all, of *runkeness*, in the present or the coming generation, will alone avail to make education successful, and this should be the aim of all true philanthropists, who, in carrying on, each their own little object and work (generally only that of palliating an evil which has its root and origin far off), are too apt to be engrossed by that alone, and perhaps by their very efforts may be encouraging the evil they would remedy. This is certainly the ease when bad parents are relieved of the burden and responsibility of their children, and when relations of all degrees are encouraged by the abundant help offered to orphans to ignore their claims upon them for support.

#### SEAMEN'S AND FISHERMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

At the Spring Quarter Sessions of the Borough of Bedford, held on Monday, March 15, before Mr. J. T. Abdy, the Borough Recorder (says the *Bedfordshire Mercury*), Thomas Sherwood Young, 57, carpenter, was indicted for obtaining by false pretences of Mr. F. Howard, the sum of 5s., with intent to defraud, in the parish of St. Mary's, Bedford, on January 23. Prisoner pleaded guilty.

It will be remembered (see *Reporter* for February 17) that the prisoner represented himself to Mr. Howard as being collector for the Seaman's and Fisherman's Friend Society, and obtained from him 5s. On referring to a previous receipt Mr. Howard found that a similar 'annual' subscription had been paid six months previously. Inquiries were made, and it was found that no such society as the prisoner pretended to represent was in existence, and the prisoner was given into custody. On him was found a few shillings and a collecting book, containing the names of several Bedford people, from which it appeared that the proceeds of about a year's collecting amounted to more than £200.

Mr. Governor Roberts informed the court that the prisoner was before the magistrates at Ware on a similar charge in 1872, but it dropped to one of vagrancy, for which he was sentenced to three months.

The prisoner, with apparent emotion, read the following statement:— 'My Lord and gentlemen,—Being solemnly and deeply impressed with those weighty words of Holy Scriptures, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy," I resolved before the Most High God that I would acknowledge my guilt and leave myself to the mercy of the court.' The prisoner went on to state that since the beginning of 1871 he had had much sickness and trouble in his family, and had had much difficulty in getting employment owing to partial loss of sight. 'I have done the best I could to get work,' he continued, 'and have worked at Deptford, at Northfleet, at Southend, and at Gravesend, but this has been chiefly with those that know me, and I would at any time rather be at my work. This crime is not from choice, but from want. Nevertheless, I do feel thankful, and I do bless God that He has brought me here, for here I have been led to discover my own sinfulness, and the great gulf into which I had fallen, presuming on the mercy of God and losing sight of his sovereignty and justice. I confess I did not see my wrong before, as I continued to go among the seamen and fishermen circulating tracts and reading the Scriptures to them; but since I have been in prison I have deeply searched into the Word of God, and have listened with eager attention to the sermons and addresses delivered by the chaplain.' 'I now ask with deep contrition of soul and sincere repentance forgiveness at the hands of the prosecutor Fredrick Howard, Esq., and do as earnestly pray that the blessing pronounced by the Saviour, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy," may ever rest upon him and his. And now, my Lord and gentlemen of the jury, I implore mercy at your hands, not because that I have any merit, but because of my dear wife, do please look upon her affliction, her age, and her destitution, and do show me that mercy which you can. God helping me I will never come under the lash of the law again, but in honesty and uprightness I will walk before all men. In true penitence I implore mercy of you, for the sake of my poor wife I plead with you, she cannot work for herself, 60 years of age and afflicted, therefore the more do I plead that you would grant me some degree of mercy, and your humble servant a sincere repentant will ever pray.—THOMAS SHERWOOD YOUNG.'

The Recorder, in sentencing the prisoner, said, 'If I thought that all you had been reading was true, I might perhaps believe in your deep contrition, and perhaps have looked with as merciful an eye as I could upon your offence. But I have reason to believe that whatever that contrition may be it is but recently formed, for on a former occasion you were warned of the probable consequences that would ensue from your mode of living. In the address you have read, and upon which I shall make no comment, there were two sentences which caught my ears, and to which I must allude. You said "I would far rather have been at my trade than at this work";

and then "I could not see my wrong before." On a former occasion, when you were committed and warned of the consequence of your act, you said you would return to your work, and were determined to act in a different way. Therefore I cannot pay so much attention to the address you have given us as I might otherwise have done. It is a bad offence, and it is certainly not the first time, I think, by a good many. You have perverted charity and acted upon the kindly feeling of a gentleman whose name you have introduced into your address as one who you hope will have mercy upon you. You obtained from him money, and when he pointed out to you that there was grave suspicion about you, you endeavoured to lull those suspicions by false statements; and it was not till active steps and enquiries were made that you were found out. It was not from any contrition on your part. I don't want to dwell upon your actions, it would be unkind to do so, but I can't help making these remarks. I cannot deal with the offence lightly, because it is a serious one, and I must therefore sentence you to be kept in prison for one year.'

**CASE OF GEORGE FREEMAN.**—A man of this name applied to the Strand Committee in December 1874, and again in February 1875, stating that he was a widower, and had been a ship's surgeon, and that he had come from New Zealand some time before. He could not give the name of any reference, nor did he produce any ship's papers, saying, in the first instance, that such papers were not given to surgeons, and subsequently that the papers were on board the 'Atrato,' where they were retained as security for a debt of 10s. Upon inquiry, it was found that he had come home from New Zealand in the 'Atrato,' as a passenger, his passage-money having been paid by relations, and that his statement as to the debt of 10s. was correct. It was also discovered that he went out to New Zealand in the 'James Nichol Fleming,' having been engaged by the New Zealand Government as surgeon, to take charge of 350 emigrants during their voyage out to New Zealand, his remuneration for his services to be 10s. a head. On the voyage it was found that he was wholly incompetent as a medical man, and that he was also a great drunkard. In consequence of his incompetency he did not receive his remuneration from the Government. Charges of attempted immorality during the voyage were also brought against him. Before the investigation was completed, he was brought before Mr. Mansfield, on March 27, at the Marylebone Police Court, and charged with begging. It appeared that on March 18 he went into a jeweller's shop and asked for alms, and that a few minutes after he left the shop a gold watch was missed. As nothing could be proved respecting the watch, the prisoner was sentenced to a month's hard labour for begging.

**CASE OF CREASY J. WHELLAMS.**—*The Queen v. Patteson.* As will be seen on reference to the *Reporter* of November 18, 1874, this was a prosecution for libel instituted against the manager of the *Toronto Mail*. Reference was made to the Charity Organisation Society in the trial. The verdict, which was for the plaintiff, was 'reserved for the consideration of a superior tribunal.' From the *Toronto Mail* of March 3, it appears that the result of judgments delivered, at great length, by the Chief Justice and two other Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench (Ontario) is that the previous conviction is quashed on the ground that the Attorney-General, who conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Ontario Government, had, in such a case as the one in question, no right to cause jurymen to stand aside. The defendant's counsel had at the trial deprecated in strong terms this rejection of certain jurors as tending to prejudice defendant's case.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 135.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 21, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICES.

The Office hours of the City Committee will in future be from 10 to 4, instead of from 1 to 3.

Separate Committees have now been formed for Stepney and Mile End Old Town.

The address of the Stepney Office is 598, Commercial Road, E., Office-hours 10 to 11 and 4 to 5. The address of the Mile End Old Town Office is 116, Mile End Old Town, E.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord W. Compton, Major Prendergast, Major Sanford, W. Westby Moore, Esq., Major FitzRoy, *St. George's*; H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, C. J. Tarring, Esq., *South St. Paneras*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, K.C.B., *Holborn*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; Edgar Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; G. Parker, Esq., J.P., *Lewisham*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; F. D. Mocatta, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; E. Thornton, Esq., *Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Association*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., K.C.B., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., G. Blount, Esq., S. Fuller, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 48. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

The Secretary reported that the Stepney Committee had elected Mrs. Barnett and Mr. O'Malley, and the Lewisham Committee Mr. George Parker and Mr. Arthur Annesley, as representatives; and that the Rev. W. H. Langhorne had been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Mile End Old Town Committee.

Mr. A. H. Hill called attention to the register of candidates for charity agentships kept at the Central Office; he doubted whether the existence of the register was known to all District Committees.

Mr. Stephen Fuller asked whether any member of the Council could furnish the Whitechapel Committee with four 'Surgical Aid' letters.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending April 10 the receipts had been £58. 17s. for the

General Fund, £52 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £1,139. 12s. 2d. and £261. 3s. 9d. respectively.

That they had elected Sir Alexander Gordon their Chairman.

Also, that they had supplied a number of notices, headed 'Caution to Travellers from India,' and having reference to certain impostors, to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

A grant of £43 was made to the South St. Pancras Committee; also a grant of £84, to be divided between the Stepney and Mile End Old Town Committees.

## TEMPORARY RELIEF AND PERMANENT BENEFIT.

The Committee then proceeded to consider a question submitted for their opinion by the St. George's Committee, of which notice was given in the last *Reporter*. A woman had been deserted six years ago by her husband, had two children, and asked for 30s. to purchase clothes and boots for them, as they could not attend school regularly for want of clothing.

The woman is of good character, and, looking to the fact that she is unable to be away from home the whole day, appears to earn as much as can reasonably be expected. The amount of her earnings, though sufficient to keep herself and family, so far as bare maintenance goes, without assistance from the parish, is insufficient to allow her to pay down a lump sum of money to provide her children with clothes and shoes to attend school. The Committee cannot, however, say that the gift of clothes would permanently benefit the case, as it would not enable the woman in any way to renew them when worn-out.

Sir Charles Trevelyan urged the importance of endeavouring permanently to improve the condition of the family. He referred to the large proportion of widows and deserted wives who were in receipt of parish relief, and argued that it was the duty of the Society to try and save people from becoming paupers, by dealing effectively with such cases as the one in question. He would have the District Committees keep families together, not send the children into institutions, as was too often done.

Mr. Miner knew the importance of such cases, from his experience as a member of a divisional Committee of the School Board. The present case was a very simple one, to his mind, and there were many others more or less similar in which help was needed. The law insisted on children going to school, and his School Board Committee had had to send many cases to the Guardians which had never before had parish relief, and were, in his opinion, more suitable for charitable assistance. If the Society did not take such cases up, a fresh agency would be formed on purpose to deal with them. He would move—

That District Committees should grant to poor industrious families not receiving parochial relief such assistance as they cannot obtain from other sources, and which, after due investigation, may be found necessary to enable them to send their children of a suitable age to school.

Mr. Wightman Wood referred to the desirability of the



opinion of the Council being taken by District Committees on questions of difficulty. At the same time this case did not seem to him very difficult. Taking the headings of the weekly return form, it was clear that such a case should not be rejected, but either referred or assisted. He would move, as an amendment—

That the St. George's Committee be informed that the Council is of opinion that, in the case put, the Committee should afford the relief required, either by obtaining it from the Guardians or otherwise, or failing that by a grant from their own fund.

Mr. A. H. Hill thought that, on Mr. Miner's own showing, the Guardians had already solved the difficulty by taking many such cases up. There was no evidence that 8s. a week was the best the woman could do for herself; she might go elsewhere and get more. He would move as a further amendment, when he had the opportunity—

That it is inexpedient to remove cases of the class quoted from the ordinary operation of the District Committee, acting at its discretion within the limits of its ascertained means, and in accordance with the general principles of this Society.

Mr. Phillips Jodrell suggested that it should also be shown that assistance, if given, would really make the applicant independent.

Mr. Mocatta said that the case was a type of thousands of others. As regarded desertion, the Guardians were, no doubt, right in dealing very strictly with it; the practice was increasing, and the Society must be careful how it ran counter to the policy of the Poor-law. But there were many similar cases of widows. Most of them were neither very deserving nor very undeserving, and it would be difficult to draw any line of distinction. As a manager of some very large schools, he had seen how the desire for relief had spread. Special cases should, he thought, be referred to private charity—ordinary cases to the Poor-law.

Mr. J. R. Hollond deprecated breaking down the feeling of self-respect which made persons unwilling to apply to the Guardians. A widow who had obtained relief for her children would be sure to apply for it for herself as soon as she was 60. He did not think that there would be any such influx of cases as was apprehended, and if there were, the Committee could resist applications at least as well as the Poor-law could. They might insist, after one such grant, that the applicant should lay something by in a clothing club.

Mr. Bond feared that such cases would come before the Committees much more frequently in consequence of Mr. Peek's gift. The Society was not primarily a relief Society, and great care must be taken that the Committees did not supplant other agencies, instead of supplementing them.

The Secretary explained that Mr. Peek's gift had reference to all cases of distress to which the School Board Committees might draw attention—not to clothing cases in particular; there had been some misconceptions about this; Mr. Peek spoke from a general, not from an educational, point of view.

Miss Hill pointed out that the woman in question had apparently been supporting herself and her children for six years; the children must have had some clothes during that time. A gigantic system of relief was springing up in connection with such cases. She feared that it was only impoverishing the poor and doing them no real good. It was the interests of the poor she wanted to protect, not the purses of the rich. She hoped Mr. Peek's donation would not extend the relief functions of the Society. Probably the best course with the present case would be to refer it to private charity.

Major FitzRoy explained, as Hon. Secretary of the St. George's Committee, that the woman had not herself applied; the case had been sent by the School Board Committee. She was sure to require assistance again from time to time. The children would cost more as they got older. Assistance had

been obtained for the present case from private persons, but this might not be possible in a poorer district, and it was not right that there should be one law for the rich and another for the poor districts: The matter narrowed itself down to the question whether it was a case in which temporary assistance would be permanently useful.

Mr. Peto moved the adjournment of the discussion, and the motion was put, and carried by 13 to 12.

The Secretary stated that the 'Suggested Rules for District Committees' on which the Manual was based, was the paper of the Society that bore most directly on the subject under discussion.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, April 17, 1875:—*Annual*: Miss F. M. Cross, £1. 1s.; Mrs. Pollard, £1. 1s.; J. Sawyer, Esq., £1. 1s.. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Messrs. Barclay & Co., £50; Messrs. Barnetts & Co., £25; Messrs. Bosanquet & Co., £20; Messrs. Glyn & Co., £50; Messrs. Roberts & Co., £50.

The following business stands for Monday, April 26:—

Mr. Peto to resume the adjourned discussion on the case submitted by the St. George's Committee for the opinion of the Council. (See above.)

Replies from District Committees to the circular of the Council with reference to Mr. Peek's offer to be brought up from the Administrative Committee. (See below.)

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 14.)

Mr. A. H. Hill to move: 'That Mr. Solly's letter, dated April 16, 1875, be entered on the Minutes, and that a marginal note be entered opposite the Resolution of December 27, 1869, referring forward to that letter, and also to Mr. Solly's letter dated August 28, 1869, to the Hon. Secretary of this Society, which is kept among the other letters of that date, as well as to copies of letters from Lord Lichfield and Lord Lyttelton, dated respectively June 11, 1872, and March 28, 1872, now handed in with Mr. Solly's letters.'

Mr. Edgecombe to move: 'That where an inquiry can be conveniently and safely carried on by post, it is recommended that the correspondence be conducted by the Committee of the District in which the applicant for assistance resides.'

The following are the Circular and Memorandum, with reference to Mr. Peek's offer, sent to the District Committees by the Council, and the reply received from the St. George's Committee:—

*Central Office*—15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Dear Sir,—I am directed to forward to your Committee the enclosed memorandum of arrangements which have been agreed on in connection with a very generous offer made by Mr. Francis Peek, and accepted by the Council.

You will observe that Mr. Peek does not ask that the District Committees of the Society should do any work that properly belongs to the School Board, nor that they should in any way change their present principles of action.

The Council propose shortly to communicate with the Chairman of the School Board, with a view to making the arrangements known to the Divisional Committees of the Board. They will be glad, therefore, to know, as soon as possible, whether you would wish to offer any suggestions as to the best mode of carrying out the proposed arrangements.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

CHAS. B. P. BOSANQUET, *Secretary*.

March 30, 1875.

Arrangements agreed on with Mr. Francis Peek, as to his offer of February 24, 1875.

1. It is already the duty of the District Committees of the Charity Organisation Society to inquire into all cases of alleged distress to which their attention may be called, and to deal with them to the best of their judgment and ability. Mr. Peek is anxious to increase the ability of the Committees in the poorer districts to deal with such cases as the School Board authorities may refer to them, and also to encourage the School Board authorities to make use of the Charity Organisation Committees.

2. Mr. Peek does not wish any special action taken in the way of paying school-fees, nor any inquiries made with reference to the question of payment or remission by the School Board; but he desires that the Divisional and Sub-divisional Committees of the School Board should be invited to refer persons, who appear to be in need of charitable assistance, to the Dis-



strict Committees of the Charity Organisation Society, and that the clerks to each Divisional Committee should be furnished with the Investigation Tickets of the Society, so as to make it easier for them to refer persons to the local offices.

3. The cases of these persons will be inquired into like those of persons applying under any other circumstances, and dealt with strictly according to the principles of the Society as set forth in its Manual. According to those principles, no person is suitable for assistance from the funds of a District Committee, unless there is likelihood of temporary relief being of permanent benefit to the applicant. Cases in which relief would merely temporarily alleviate the distress must be left to the Poor-law or to private charity.

4. Mr. Peek proposes to contribute the sum of £1,000 per annum for three years to the funds of the Society, to promote these arrangements.

5. This contribution will be treated by the Council as a separate fund, and will be divided in the course of the year amongst the District Committees, on application by them, in proportion to the extra expense, whether in the way of establishment or otherwise, to which co-operation with the School-Board Committees is putting them.

'St. George's Charity Organisation Committee,  
'48 Buckingham Palace Road.

'Sir,—This Committee have had under their consideration your communication of the 30th ult., requesting them to forward any suggestions they have to offer as to the carrying out of the arrangements which have been agreed on between Mr. Peek and the Central Council, as to the application of the sum of money given by that gentleman for the purposes of the Society in the particular way specified.

'This Committee have no remarks to make upon paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the arrangements. They gather from those paragraphs, which are principally of an explanatory character, that Mr. Peek does not wish to modify the principles of relief adopted by the Society, but is simply desirous of furnishing the Local Committees in the poorer districts with means to deal with cases referred to them by the several Divisional School Boards in strict conformity with those principles.

'It is with reference to the concluding paragraph of the arrangements that this Committee would venture to offer a suggestion.

'This Committee fear that if the proposed arrangement of a separate fund is adopted, it will soon follow that "School Board cases," as they are already called, may be considered on different and perhaps laxer principles than ordinary cases. They feel that there should be no *specialité* with regard to cases sent by the School Board, but that they should be entertained and dealt with, as they have been up to the present, like ordinary cases laid before the Society by any private individuals; and in this view they would suggest that the simple plan would be to place Mr. Peek's liberal donation to the credit of the District Committee Aid Fund, whence it would flow out as a matter of course in the direction it was most wanted, and fulfil Mr. Peek's wishes of strengthening the hands of the poorer Committees. If the Council should consider it necessary to make any difference with regard to Mr. Peek's money, this Committee would still suggest that it be placed to the credit of the District Committee Aid Fund; and when any Committee showed that their general resources were exhausted, then, on making an application for assistance to the Council, they should be allowed specially to mention the amount disbursed by them previously in the relief of cases sent by the School Board.

'I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

'C. C. FRIZROY,  
'Hon. Sec.

'The Secretary, Charity Organisation Society,  
April 7, 1875.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

ST. GEORGE'S.—*Case of Robert Wylie.*—This man, whose case was reported in our last issue, is identical with Frank Carey, *alias* Robert Wiley, *alias* John McWilliams, *alias* William Noblett, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, on June 6, 1874, for obtaining money under false pretences from Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., and Mr. Neville Grenville, M.P., (See *Reporter*, No. 101, p. 268). He was brought up again at the Westminster Police Court, on the 15th inst., and committed to the Sessions to be dealt with as an incorrigible rogue. In both cases the prosecution was the result of the action of the above Committee.

NEWINGTON.—*Claim against an Assurance Company.*—At the Worship Street Police Court, on Saturday, the 17th inst., Mr. Joseph Frith, agent of this Committee, applied to Mr. Bushby, on behalf of the widow of a man named Bignell, of Belgrave Place, Walworth Road. Bignell, it appeared from the statement of Mr. Frith, who produced a number of papers and letters to support his case, had been insured for £114s., to be paid to his widow on his death, with the United Kingdom Assurance Corporation, 27a, Finsbury Square. Bignell paid 2d. a week premium to an agent who called, and the payments were entered week by week in a book

kept for that purpose. Bignell appeared to have joined the society during the first week in October 1873, but the policy issued to him by the society bore date the 27th, the payments having up to that time been claimed as a kind of entrance-fee. There was also a stipulation in the policy that if the assured should die before the expiration of twelve months from the time of entrance, only half the amount of the policy could be claimed. It appeared that it was the course of business of the United Kingdom Assurance Corporation not to require a medical examination of the assured, but to accept him upon his own statement of his health. Towards the close of the year Bignell's mind became affected, and he was sent to Caterham Asylum. He died there of general paralysis and exhaustion in the following April, the payments to the insurance office being kept up all the time by the wife. Bignell had thus died within a year of his insuring himself, and the wife only claimed the sum of £5.12s. This, however, the United Kingdom Assurance Corporation refused to pay, and the woman, who had a family to support, had up to the present time been kept out of her money. Mr. Barker, Hon. Secretary of the Charity Organisation Committee, Newington, had taken up the case; but the manager said that, after consideration, the corporation could not recognise the claim, as the deceased had misled them as to the state of his health at the time the insurance was effected. This was not the only case of the kind. A widow, named Reeves, had informed the Alderman at Guildhall that she had been refused the sum of £9, due on the death of her son, whose life she had insured for 1d. a week. That case was answered by the solicitors to the United Kingdom Assurance Corporation, but Mr. Alderman Finnis expressed his surprise that there was an assurance company which took 2d. a week from the poor people, and thought that such a class of society was prohibited by Act of Parliament. Mr. Frith said that up to this time Mrs. Reeves' claim had not been met. He wished to know if it was not possible to bring the manager or directors before the Court upon a summons in each case. Mr. Bushby thought that it was a case for the County Court.—*Times*.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with		
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment					Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	4	3	4	11	1	1	1	3	5	1	3	..	9	23	6	3	9
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	3	3	2	6
Paddington .....	3	1	2	6	..	1	2	3	5	1	1	1	8	17	3	3	..
Chelsea .....	..	1	..	1	..	2	7	9	4	2	1	1	8	18	14	1	1
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	18	10	4	..
Westminster do.	1	1	3	5	1	2	3	6	3	..	..	..	3		1	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	7	8
St. Marylebone .....	3	2	6	11	..	14	1	15	2	2	..	1	5	31	6	3	..
Hampstead .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	3	..	3	1
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	2	1
South St. Pancras ....	1	6	1	8	..	1	6	7	..	2	..	2	4	19	3	5	1
*Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	2	2	..	..	4	7	1	1	..
Strand .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	5	..	7	..
Holborn .....	2	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	5	3	9	1
City .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	6	..
Shoreditch .....	1	2	1	4	..	..	3	3	4	1	..	..	5	12	3	3	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	3	7	9	..	4	1
Whitechapel .....	2	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	2	6	3	2	..
St. George's-in-the-East	2	..	1	3	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	2	3	8	2	1	..
Stepney Union .....	2	..	3	5	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	8	19	3	..	..
Mill End Old Town ..	1	..	2	3	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	1	..
Poplar .....	1	1	1	3	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	6	1	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	2	2	4	8	..	3	..	3	3	..	..	3	3	14	3	3	1
Newington .....	1	1	..	2	..	2	1	3	2	..	..	..	2	7	1	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	1	..	3	4	..	..	..	..	4	1	..	..	5	18	..	5	..
South .....	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	3	1	2	1	7		..	1	..
*Wandsworth & Putney	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	6	1	..	..
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	6
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	3	3	..	5	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	1	11	1	..	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		1	..	4
Greenwich .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	4	9	1	..	7
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	8
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	6	..	9
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	7
Total .....	33	22	52	107	3	36	36	75	48	28	9	15	100	282	100	9	97

\* No returns received from these Committees at the time of going to press.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its eighteenth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, Messrs. W. A. B. Hamilton, Alsager Hay Hill, W. R. Kemp, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, W. M. Wilkinson, Mr. J. M. Hutchinson (visitor), and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

Mr. Martin Tait reported that the London School Board had empowered their School Management Committee to authorise him to nominate a teacher to visit the blind children in Board Schools to give technical instruction.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head II. a:—‘What more can be done through existing agencies, by improvements in system of working?’

It was resolved, on Major-General Bainbrigge's motion:—

‘That the Committee recommend that both blind boys and girls should, as early as possible, be instructed in exercises and employments suitable for developing the physical as well as mental powers, and especially fineness of touch, such as drill, gymnastics, knitting, netting, and sewing, with the view of fitting them for work in after-life, and furnishing them with employment when at home.’

It was also resolved, on Mr. Wilkinson's motion:—

‘That election under the voting system is in an especial manner inapplicable to the institutions for the educational and industrial training of the blind; and that admission by selection, after a careful comparison of the merits of the different candidates, should form a necessary part of improvements in the system of working.’

It was agreed that the resolutions passed up to the present date should be printed consecutively and sent out to members.

## AFFILIATED COUNTRY ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received the following returns from Associations affiliated to the Society, showing the number of cases they have decided during the quarter ending Saturday, March 27, 1875:—

	Birkenhead	Brighton	Chester	Eton	Glasgow	Horsham	Kingston-on-Thames	Oxford	Reading	Scarborough	Wimbledon	Winchester
<b>CLASS I.</b>												
Dismissed, or unfavourably reported on, as—												
1. Not requiring relief . . . . .	9	3	..	..	72	4	2	3	14	3	1	1
2. Undeserving . . . . .	22	31	13	..	82	5	1	14	8	16	1	..
3. Cases for Poor-law, or otherwise ineligible . . . . .	4	28	8	2	52	..	..	16	20	13	1	4
	35	62	21	2	206	9	3	33	39	32	3	5
<b>CLASS II.</b>												
Recommended to—												
1. The Guardians . . . . .	27	1	10	..	..	2	..	7	..	4	..	..
2. Institutions or Local Agencies . . . . .	7	3	..	9	36	..	..	11	1	..	..	2
3. Private Persons . . . . .	5	13	4	3	83	..	..	2	5	2	3	..
	39	17	14	12	119	2	..	20	6	6	3	2
<b>CLASS III.</b>												
Assisted by—												
1. Grants . . . . .	74	48	7	6	4	21	1	14	6	26	2	15
2. Loans . . . . .	..	..	1	..	5	3	3	28	1	5	1	1
3. Employment . . . . .	5	..	..	5	6	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
4. Letters for Hospitals, &c. . . . .	..	15	..	3	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	..
	79	63	8	14	16	24	5	45	8	31	4	16
	153	142	43	28	341	35	8	98	53	69	10	23
Reports sent out . . . . .	17	69	..	..	132	..	..	43	8	..	2	6
Inquiries for other Associations and Committees . . . . .	4	20	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	3	..
Vagrants dealt with . . . . .	9	704	23	265	1	26	182	137	22	..	286	..

## DORSET MENDICITY SOCIETY.

(From the Dorset County Chronicle and Somersetshire Gazette.)

The fifth Annual Meeting of the Committee of this Society took place at the Shire Hall, Dorchester, on the 6th inst., under the presidency of Viscount Portman, Chairman of Quarter Sessions.

The Hon. Secretary read the following Report:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—I beg to lay before you the Fifth Annual Report of the Dorset Mendicity Society, showing the state of vagrancy in this county for the year 1874. The number of admissions to the casual wards of our thirteen unions amounted, during the past twelve months, to 2,847—a reduction of over 74 per cent. as compared with the year previous to the establishment of this Society in 1869; whilst as regards the number of persons committed under the Vagrant Act, there is a decrease of 77 per cent. as compared with the same period. During the past year the Reports which have been received from other counties show that there has been an almost general increase of vagrancy throughout England. This has been felt to a slight extent in Dorset, the number of casual admissions being 247 more than in 1873. There is, however, good reason to believe that, as far as this county is concerned, this increase has been checked. The returns for the first quarter of the present year—viz. to March 31—show a decrease of 115 in the number of admissions to unions as compared with the corresponding period of 1874; and on the night of March 31 a census of vagrants was carefully taken, when it was found that there were only 14 in Dorset on that night.

They were distributed as follows:—In casual-wards, 10; in lodging-houses, 3; elsewhere, 1.

When this system was first established, it was said that as soon as the novelty had worn off, it would fail for want of public support. It is therefore satisfactory to be able to state, after five years' experience, that vagrancy has been reduced to the above-named very low limits, that beggars are rarely met with, and that the public do continue to support the Society and to make use of its tickets, in proof of which it appears that during 1874 3,702 tickets were received and exchanged for bread at our 73 relief stations. [The expenditure amounted to £57. 0s. 8d.] In conclusion, I beg to add that the ‘Dorset system’ has been recently adopted in the western division of Sussex, and that in Kent, where it has been in operation for four years, the Special Committee of Justices appointed to consider the state of vagrancy in that county report, ‘That by its general adoption vagrancy would be repressed more effectually than by any other means at present devised.’

Trusting that these results may be considered satisfactory, I have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

AMYATT BROWN, Hon. Secretary.

The noble Chairman observed that they were very much indebted to the Chief Constable of the county for having organised such a system as this, which continued to be so well received by the public, and was so satisfactory in its working. It required both the co-operation of the public and the energy of the police to keep the vagrants in check. He (the noble Viscount) had seen some few tramps of a most wretched kind during the past quarter, but they seemed to be persons who came from afar. He sent one to gaol a fortnight ago. Some foolish body gave the man a shilling instead of bread, and he perpetrated violence, for which he was obliged to be committed. If he had received a bread-ticket instead of the shilling the violence would probably have been averted, and the man would not have been sent to gaol. The Society provided good protection against mischief, and this Report would probably be received with great satisfaction. (Applause.)

Mr. Littlehales said the Report reflected great credit upon the Chief Constable for having organised a system which seemed to be spreading over England. It began in Dorsetshire, as he understood.

The Hon. Secretary: Yes, this was the first county in England where it was adopted.

Mr. Littlehales remarked he had kept a regular account of the vagrants in his division of the county, and lately there had been very few; indeed, for several weeks there had been none; formerly there were very many.

The Hon. Secretary observed there was in the account an exceptional item for relief to a tramp, to enable him to return to his home. The man was anxious to return to Ireland, so his passage was paid to Cork. (Laughter.) He (Captain Amyatt Brown) did not know whether he was justified in paying the amount. The Hon. Secretary added that at any time when subscribers wished inquiries to be made as to tramps he should be glad to give all the assistance in his power. He was sorry to say, from his own experience, there was not, as a rule, the smallest foundation for the stories they related, the addresses and names they gave. He had occasionally written to parties whom they named, and the answer was they had never known of such persons. Captain Amyatt Brown said a similar society was about to be established in the eastern division of Sussex, and he had received the form of a ticket it was proposed to use there.

The Hon. W. H. B. Portman, M.P., moved the adoption of the Report.

Mr. John Floyer, M.P., seconded the motion, which was carried *nem. con.* This closed the proceedings of the meeting.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of April 1875 was 35,553, and 56,945 received outdoor relief, making a total of 92,498. This was a decrease of 3,484 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 12,389, 22,146, and 24,293 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 403. This was an increase of 8 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 140 on the corresponding day of last year.

**A LADY GUARDIAN.**—The ratepayers of Kensington have elected Miss Merington a Guardian. Miss Merington has long been known as an active worker amongst the poor.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 136.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 28, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICES.

Two copies of the Annual Report of the Council (2nd edition), have been sent to all District Committees, and to the affiliated associations. Any further number can be supplied at 4d. each.

The weekly meeting of the St. George's-in-the-East Committee is held on Mondays, at 11.30 A.M.

The Office-hours of the Mile End Old Town Committee (116 Mile End Road, E.) are from 10 to 11 A.M., and from 4 to 5 P.M.

The weekly meeting of the Poplar Committee will in future be held on Wednesdays, at 3 P.M.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Rev. H. Hayman, *Fulham*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; Lord Claud Hamilton, A. G. Middleton, Esq., W. Westby Moore, Esq., Hon. R. C. Moreton, Major FitzRoy, *St. George's*; H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, C. J. Tarring, Esq., *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, K.C.B., *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, H. A. Herbert, Esq., *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. R. J. Elliott, *Poplar*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; F. Green, Esq., J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; A. Annesley, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., K.C.B., Stephen Fuller, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 44. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*. C. Meysey Clive, Esq., *Visitor*.

A letter was read from Mr. D. A. Pearson, calling attention to the deficiency of hands of all kinds and ages for agricultural work in the north-east of Scotland.

The Secretary reported that the Hon. R. C. Moreton had been appointed an Hon. Secretary of the St. George's Committee, and that the Rev. A. J. Ross, and Mr. A. C. Mitchell had been elected representatives by the Mile End Committee.

Sir Charles Trevelyan presented cards of invitation to a meeting of the Association for the Oral Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, to be held at the Mansion House, on May 6, at 2.30 P.M.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked how many District Committees were without Honorary Secretaries.

It was stated, in reply, that the Whitechapel and Poplar

Committees were at present without Hon. Secretaries, but were desirous to find gentlemen willing to undertake that office.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending April 17 the receipts had been £3. 3s. for the General Fund, £145 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £1,095. 11s. 9d. and £264. 1s. 3d. respectively.

That they had elected Mr. J. R. Hollond their Vice-Chairman.

And that they would be glad to add any members of Council to the Inquiry Supervision Sub-Committee who could attend on Tuesdays at 2.30 P.M. for two hours.

## TRAINING SCHOOLS AND ASYLUMS FOR IDIOTS.

Sir Charles Trevelyan gave notice of six resolutions to be moved by him at an early meeting of the Council after Whitsuntide. He said that the whole subject of the provision to be made for the training of improvable idiots, and for the management of those who only require to be sheltered and kindly cared for, was in a state of great confusion, and that these resolutions had been framed for the purpose of fixing in the public mind a simple, consistent plan to be worked up to by all parties concerned. He also suggested that the Earl of Devon, the Rev. Canon Hopkins, Mr. Millard, and a few other gentlemen interested in the subject, as well as the representatives of existing institutions, should be invited to assist in the discussion.

1st.—That, as by the census returns of 1871, there were in England and Wales 29,452 idiots or imbeciles, which number is admitted to be 25 per cent. below the mark, showing a total of 36,835, or 1 in every 621 of the population; and as the condition of many youthful idiots can be altogether altered and improved by adapted training, while a large proportion of the remainder are quite unfit to mix with ordinary members of society; and union-houses and lunatic asylums are, for many reasons, unsuitable receptacles for idiots, training schools should be provided for improvable, and permanent asylums for unimprovable idiots.

2nd.—That, in order to elicit the sympathy and active co-operation and support of the wealthy and charitable, the training schools should, as far as possible, be conducted upon the voluntary principle, and that with this object the managers of existing asylums depending upon public subscriptions for their support be invited to modify their rules so as to make their institutions available as part of a national system.

3rd.—That besides the general objections to the canvassing and voting system as a means of admission to charitable institutions, it is in an especial manner inapplicable to making provision for idiots, inasmuch as their successful treatment depends upon their being selected at the proper age to be placed either in a training school or permanent asylum, according to the nature of their respective cases.

4th.—That the Government be memorialised to allow the capitation grant of 4s. a week to be paid for poor idiots admitted into subscription training schools, in the same way as it is now allowed for pauper idiots placed in county lunatic asylums, and that further payments be made by friends who are able to do so, or by Boards of Guardians.

5th.—That exertions should be made to establish the necessary additional number of training schools on this principle throughout the country; and that permanent asylums for unimprovable cases needing supervision, shelter, and kind care, should be established upon the grounds of the county lunatic



asylums or elsewhere, either singly or for two counties combined, the expense of building and maintenance being defrayed out of the county-rates, aided by the Government capitation grant and by the contributions of the friends of the idiots or the Boards of Guardians.

6th.—That, to facilitate the establishment of training schools and permanent asylums, the Government be asked to introduce a bill especially for the regulation of idiot asylums, releasing such asylums from the stringent regulations of the Lunacy Act, 8 and 9 Vict., cap. 100, which was passed before an idiot asylum existed, such release being in accordance with the recommendations of the Lunacy Commissioners in their Report to the Lord Chancellor for the years 1865 and 1868.

#### TEMPORARY RELIEF AND PERMANENT BENEFIT.

Mr. Peto resumed the discussion on the case submitted by the St. George's Committee. A woman had been deserted six years ago by her husband, had two children, and 30s. was asked for to purchase clothes and boots for them, as they could not attend school regularly for want of clothing.

The woman is of good character; and, looking to the fact that she is unable to be away from home the whole day, appears to earn as much as can reasonably be expected. The amount of her earnings, though sufficient to keep herself and family, so far as bare maintenance goes, without assistance from the parish, is insufficient to allow her to pay down a lump sum of money to provide her children with clothes and shoes to attend school. The Committee cannot, however, say that the gift of clothes would permanently benefit the case, as it would not enable the woman in any way to renew them when worn out.

The case had been brought to the notice of the Committee by the Divisional Committee of the School Board, and the Committee asked whether in the opinion of the Council relief in the way of clothes or boots should be given to enable the children to go to school.

Mr. Miner had moved the following resolution:—

That District Committees should grant to poor industrious families not receiving parochial relief such assistance as they cannot obtain from other sources, and as, after due investigation, may be found necessary to enable them to send their children of a suitable age to school.

To which Mr. Wightman Wood had moved as an amendment:—

That the St. George's Committee be informed that the Council is of opinion that, in the case put, the Committee should afford the relief required, either by obtaining it from the Guardians or otherwise, or, failing that, by a grant from their own fund.

Notice had also been given by Mr. A. H. Hill of the following amendment:—

That it is inexpedient to remove cases of the class quoted from the ordinary operation of the District Committee, acting at its discretion within the limits of its ascertained means, and in accordance with the general principles of this Society.

Mr. Peto said that Mr. Miner had authorised him to ask that he might be allowed to add the following words to his resolution:—

Provided that assistance is granted only in cases where there is a likelihood of temporary relief being of permanent benefit.

Neither Mr. Miner nor he wished to alter the plan of the Society, but it was a part of this plan to give substantial assistance when it seemed probable that this would raise people to a condition of independence, and it was no less necessary to enable them to maintain their independence. Clothes were given to grown-up persons to enable them to get employment; why should they not be given to children?

Mr. Fuller thought that it would not be enough merely to give the 30s. asked for; the Committee should encourage the woman to put by some small sum each week in a clothing fund or penny bank, and should keep their eye on her, with a view to obtaining her better employment.

Mr. Edgcombe said that the real question was whether the St. George's Committee were at liberty to give relief with the knowledge that it would be required again in six months. The Committee pointed out that the relief would not be of permanent benefit. It was not the object of the Society to give relief, and it was not well adapted for relief-giving,

though in some exceptional cases it had to undertake it. He was against extending the relief functions of the Society.

The Rev. H. G. Henderson was of opinion that clothes should be given by Boards of Guardians in such cases. It could not be said that the woman was in a position of independence.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson thought that each case must be dealt with on its merits, and that failing other sources the Committee should assist.

After a few words from Mr. Maurice, the Rev. J. D. McGachen, Sir Alexander Gordon, Mr. Tidman, and Mr. Green, Mr. O'Malley urged that no general rule should be laid down. It was one of the hard cases which proverbially made bad law. The poor were very much in the position of the Israelites when they were required to make bricks without straw, but it would be changing the basis of the Society if it undertook to find straw for them. The St. George's Committee said that no permanent good would be done.

Mr. Edgar Hyde contended that the grant asked for would be of permanent benefit both to the woman and the children.

Sir Charles Trevelyan held that relief to such cases was in accordance with the rules of the Society. The public wished the Society to undertake the relief of the deserving poor as well as the organisation of charity.

Miss Octavia Hill thought that such cases could not be assisted without infringing the fundamental rules of the Society. It would be a grant in aid of the wages of an able-bodied woman with no prospect of permanently improving her position. Mr. Peek's offer did not alter the case. He did not wish the Society to change its principles.

Mr. Fuller and Miss Hill having handed in amendments, Mr. Wood's amendment was put and carried by 18 to 13.

Mr. Wood's amendment having thus become the substantive motion, Mr. Hill's amendment was put and carried by 13 to 10.

Mr. Fuller moved the following amendment:—

In answer to the question put by the St. George's Committee, the Council consider that clothing ought to be obtained, or, failing that, granted; that the woman should be encouraged to subscribe weekly to a clothing club according to her means; and that employment should be sought elsewhere at a higher rate.

This was put and lost by 13 to 8.

Miss Hill moved as another amendment:—

That the St. George's Committee having stated that temporary relief to the woman whose case is submitted by them is not likely to be permanently beneficial, the Council is of opinion that such a case cannot be assisted from the funds of the Society in accordance with the principles of the Society, though the case might with propriety be referred to individuals or local authorities, as is done in other cases where temporary relief is required.

At this point, the adjournment of the discussion, which had been moved twice before and lost, was moved again by Mr. A. H. Hill and carried.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, April 24, 1875:—*Annual*: J. Ewart, Esq., £2. 2s.; Dr. Ogle, 10s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: C. J. C., £5.

The following business stands for Monday, May 3:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee.

That a grant of £25 be made to the Bethnal Green Committee.

Adjourned discussion on the case submitted by the St. George's Committee to the Council. Amendment by Miss Octavia Hill on Mr. A. H. Hill's motion. (See above.)

Replies from District Committees to the circular of the Council with reference to Mr. Peek's offer to be brought up from the Administrative Committee. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 14.)

Mr. A. H. Hill to move: 'That Mr. Solly's letter, dated April 16, 1875,



be entered on the Minutes, and that a marginal note be entered opposite the Resolution of December 27, 1869, referring forward to that letter, and also to Mr. Solly's letter dated August 28, 1869, to the Hon. Secretary of this Society, which is kept among the other letters of that date, as well as to copies of letters from Lord Lichfield and Lord Lyttelton, dated respectively June 11, 1872, and March 28, 1872, now handed in with Mr. Solly's letters.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with				
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants					Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	2	5	6	13	..	1	1	2	8	2	..	..	10	25	7	4	4
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	7
Paddington .....	4	3	2	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	5	14	11	5	..
Chelsea .....	2	..	..	2	1	..	1	2	4	1	..	2	7	11	12	4	..
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. George's Division.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	11	9	8	1
Westminster do.	1	2	2	5	..	1	..	1	4	..	..	..	4		2	1	..
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	4	9
St. Marylebone .....	..	..	1	1	..	4	2	6	3	..	..	..	3	10	6	3	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	..	1	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	4	..	..	..
South St. Pancras .....	2	2	3	7	..	..	3	3	..	1	2	..	..	10	2	5	..
Islington .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	5	4	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	5	..	..	..	5	8	2	2	..
Strand .....	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	4	4	1	8	..
Holborn .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	13	..
City .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	3	1	7	..
Shoreditch .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	7	1	5	..
Bethnal Green .....	..	..	2	2	..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	1	..
Whitechapel .....	4	..	2	6	2	..	1	3	..	..	2	2	2	11	..	2	2
St. George's-in-the-East	3	..	2	5	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	8	5	2	1
Stepney Union .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	7	..
Mile End Old Town ..	..	1	5	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	..	..
Poplar .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	4	..	6	..	1	..
St. Olave's .....	2	..	1	3	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	5	..	3	1
Lambeth:— { North ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..
South ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1		1	1	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	3	5	2	..	12
Battersea .....	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	6	..	1	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grove Lane .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	6	..	..	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1		..	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	3	6	..	..	8
Deptford .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	5	2	1	5
Woolwich .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	4	7	..	..	2
Lewisham .....	1	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	2	4	6	..	5
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	2	..	..	9
Total .....	26	18	51	95	8	15	13	36	46	16	8	10	80	211	89	97	84

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of April 1875 was 35,330, and 57,041 received outdoor relief, making a total of 92,371. This was a decrease of 127 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,504, 18,114, and 21,222 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 482. This was an increase of 79 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 307 on the corresponding day of last year.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**FULHAM (AND HAMMERSMITH) ANNUAL MEETING.**—The third annual meeting of this Committee was held at Latymer School, King Street East, Hammersmith, on Tuesday evening last, April 20. The chair was taken at about eight o'clock by W. Gordon, Esq., M.P.

There was a very small attendance of the public (says the *West London Advertiser*), but we noticed amongst those present several of the leading gentlemen of the district, including Mr. Churchwarden Mussard, E. Bird, Esq., A. J. Roberts, Esq., J. Lewis, Esq., J. Cromwell Swail, Esq., &c.

The Chairman said they were called together that evening to promote the interests of the Charity Organisation Society. Now what was charity? It was love; charity was brotherhood, and organisation was the means by which every object was carried out. They were a great commercial people,

but there was an alarming amount of pauperism in the country, and they had assembled there to combat that poverty and carry out a system by which true charity could be bestowed upon the deserving, and by which also imposture could be detected. They could not proceed along the Broadway of Hammersmith without the fact staring them in the face. Some people, when they were solicited for alms, often put their hand in their pocket and assisted them, but that was misplaced charity, for it sent them to the public-house to indulge in the curse of drink and other vices. Of course there were exceptions, but the habit of bestowing pence indiscriminately on all who solicited them was a dangerous practice. Perhaps the applicant's wife was lying at home on a sick bed, without food, his children, if he had any, starving, while he was placing in the drawer of the publican what ought to go for nourishment for his wife and family. There was also a large class of people in their midst who had no visible means of gaining a livelihood. They might depend upon it that if some means were not speedily adopted something fearful would be the result, for the evil was increasing steadily. The Society whose cause he espoused was endeavouring to put a check to this, and they wanted the assistance of all those who wished to see the evil obliterated. He was sorry to hear that a difference existed among some parties with regard to the real objects of the Society; he was afraid they were not thoroughly understood. When Mr. Ribton-Turner called upon him he was reading a copy of the report on the dwellings of the poor issued by the Society, and he believed that if the Society had never done anything but publish that report they would have conferred a lasting benefit on the community at large. (Hear, hear.) Their object was to suppress mendicancy, and to see alms justly distributed, and not given to those who, instead of using their strength, sinews, and arms to support themselves, lavished their earnings in the loathsome atmosphere of the public-house. He would not detain them any longer, but would call upon Mr. Ernest Noel, M.P., to propose the first resolution on the agenda paper.

Mr. Ernest Noel then proposed the first resolution, viz., 'That the report now presented be adopted.' He said he had the honour of belonging to a Committee in another part of London, but it had done so little when compared to the Hammersmith and Fulham one, that he was almost ashamed to come there that night and face a Hammersmith audience. They were living in a glorious country—in a country famous for its riches, famous for its freedom; but although they were living in such a country as that, although they were residents of the wealthiest city in the world, they had to meet the astounding fact that more pauperism existed in it than in any other country on the face of the globe; and when they heard that, was it not sufficient to arouse the nation from its lethargy to confront it boldly, and strive to sweep the evil from its path? If other countries had such a state of pauperism prevailing—if France had, for instance—there would be a revolution in that country which would deluge the land with blood. They had not, like other countries, an enormous army to support, taking into its ranks a mass of young men, but they had the glaring evil of a shocking pauperism. Now, how had that pauperism come about? It was, he said, due to three causes. The first of these was, that they had a bad Poor-law—a false system of managing the poor. In proof of this he would state that in Scotland, a few years ago, they had adopted the English system of Poor-law, and with what result? Why, pauperism had increased to an alarming extent in that country, and they were now labouring under the burden. The second cause was drink; and the other, mistaken or misapplied charity. The Chairman had explained what mistaken charity was. There was, he knew, no greater luxury than the luxury of giving; but in some instances—he should rather say in many instances—the gift was productive of dire results. What was required was not absolute teetotalism, but temperance. He was not a teetotaler himself; but when drink was indulged in to a great extent it took all feeling of love out of a man, all self-respect, and made him a degraded creature. It was a very unpleasant thing for a man to have no prospect before him but the poor-house—to be a burden to other people, and compel those to sustain him who had themselves put by in the summer what was requisite for their maintenance during the winter season. Was it not a degradation for a man to see his father or mother supported by the parish, when he knew that a little forethought, a little carefulness, a little self-respect, would have saved it all? It is said in the best of books that a woman loves her child, but when a woman's better nature gave way to drink it made her careless of those the most dear to her. They believed that it was very kind to give alms to those whom they thought deserved them. But if they saw that the money thus given enabled them to indulge in vice—if they saw that their acts of kindness were productive of misery—would really injure the recipient, would it be right to do so? It was not for saving their purses that they were present that night; it was to confer a benefit on the public by endeavouring to organise a true system of charity. As an instance of misplaced charity he would relate an incident which occurred in his own parish. There was a labourer living there who possessed one of the kindest and best wives whom it was possible to have. But the husband was a canting hypocrite. He would come to a person with tears in his eyes, and tell them how ill his wife was, and when assistance was rendered him betake himself to the beer house and there spend the money given him. He made inquiries and



found that he was practising an imposture. The man earned good wages for the country district in which he lived, namely, about 15s. per week—(laughter)—and out of that sum there would often go ten, sometimes twelve, and perhaps the whole fifteen shillings, to the beer-house, while his poor wife was left at home with her seven children. Well, he (the speaker) determined to put a stop to the man's behaviour; so he went round the parish and succeeded in stopping all sources of relief. Some said that it would be too bad to do that—the poor wife and children would starve; but he said it was better that they should starve than that the husband should carry on in such a manner. Well, one of the children did die from want of proper nourishment, and perhaps they would say that he was the murderer. However, the family left the parish; but he was determined to know more, so he followed them, and learned that a great improvement had taken place. He would not say that the man never got drunk, but he generally brought home ten or twelve shillings of his earnings.

Mr. Eastwick, C.B., said he had read the report, which was an able one. He hoped everyone in the room would take the trouble to read it. He had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

The motion was then put to the meeting, and declared by the Chairman to be unanimously carried.

At this juncture a gentleman in the audience rose up, and, addressing those on the platform, said he had read the report of the Society, and he certainly thought that it was full of misrepresentations. He (the speaker) had the honour of belonging to the 'Peterborough Benevolent Society,' which really had charity for its object, and which bestowed it. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said he would like the gentleman who had just spoken to become one of their Committee. He appeared to know a good deal concerning the Society, but he should bear in mind that its object was the suppression of mendicancy.

Edward Bird, Esq., was then called upon to move the second resolution. He said he was pleased to do so, for he could speak as to the assistance rendered to himself and family when they desired to know the most deserving parties upon whom to bestow their charity. He was afraid the object of the Society was not thoroughly understood. It was not for giving relief, but for suppressing mendicancy. He then moved, 'That in order to combat the evils of pauperism, it is most desirable that there should be complete co-operation between every agency for the relief of the poor, and that the case of every applicant for charity should be thoroughly investigated.'

The motion having been seconded by the Rev. H. Hayman, the Chairman declared it carried.

Some objections to the principles of the Society having been made and replied to, and Mr. Ribton-Turner having read a letter recently written by George Atkins Brine, a well-known mendicant, now an inmate of the Sherbourne Workhouse, votes of thanks to the Trustees of the Latymer School and to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

#### BRISTOL AND CLIFTON CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

We learn from the *Western Daily Press* of the 23rd inst., that the annual meeting of this Society was held on Thursday afternoon, in the Grand Jury Room at the Guildhall, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful the Mayor (Mr. C. J. Thomas). Among those present were Col. Blunt, Col. Pears, Capt. Warren, Mr. F. G. Barnett (Hon. Sec.), Mr. S. Worsley, Mr. P. Worsley, Rev. Canon Cooper, Rev. E. A. Fuller, Rev. T. Graham, Rev. W. Bruce, Rev. T. H. Clark, Mr. Henry Naish, Rev. J. M. Brown, Miss Mary Carpenter, Miss L. Edwards, Rev. C. Brittan, Mr. A. N. Price, &c.

Mr. F. Gilmore Barnett (Hon. Secretary) read the report of the Committee. It urged that charity was 'designed to help others, not ourselves,' and that real good can only be done by considering every case on its merits, by carefully tracing out its history, by seeing if ignorance, want of thrift, carelessness, laziness, or accident was the cause of distress, and by taking such steps as may prevent a recurrence to poverty again. It was often a kindness to withhold immediate relief. There could be no doubt that under a proper organisation of charity the Committee would not have to give any relief at all. The endowed charities of Bristol amounted to upwards of £40,000 a year, and in addition there were the parochial charities, and the vast amount that is dispersed through private channels. However, until the various charities could give assistance in such a manner as would be of permanent benefit to the applicant, the Committee help, as far as the funds will allow, those cases which cannot adequately be assisted by any other agency. In conclusion, the report stated that at the Bristol office during the past year 488 cases had been investigated, of which 88 had been found to be undeserving; 53 begging letters had been received, and 14 had been found to be bad; 1,368 meals had been given. At Clifton the interest in the Society was increasing, and during the past year 222 cases had been investigated.

The Mayor, in moving the adoption of the report, said that he had lived long enough in the world to be somewhat jealous of new organisations and societies; but it seemed that was a working society, and had done good,

and was calculated to do more good. There were some of them intensely engaged in private and public business, and upon whom people called, pressing very urgent demands for charity; and he had no doubt that the charity of such persons was very often abused. It was, therefore, very good of a society like that to undertake the labour and give the time which persons in the position he indicated could not give to sift and investigate these cases. In his own experience the cases most difficult to deal with were those of persons whom they had known as having been in a better position in life. Occasionally such persons would rather starve and die than make public their needs. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. Naish (Governor of the Corporation of the Poor) seconded the resolution. He remarked that often they met with cases exciting sympathy, which yet when they were investigated turned out the worst cases. He advocated a great deal of minute inquiry in private charity, and instanced the manner in which the Poor-law Guardians sifted applications for relief to exemplify the mode in which charitable appeals might be tested. At present there was often too much private charity in one quarter, and scarcely any in another quarter. Such a society as theirs would tend to equalise matters, and they might, by supporting it, depend upon all cases being properly treated.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson (member of the Council of the London Society) delivered an address on the advantage of organising charity. He urged that there should be mutual interdependence between different associations throughout the country, so that they might compare notes on all cases pressed upon their attention. He referred at some length to the operations of the London Society, and said that its objects were to raise the poor and put down imposture.

At the close of the Rev. R. J. Simpson's address the Mayor tendered him the thanks of the audience.

The Rev. Canon Cooper moved a vote of thanks to his Worship for presiding, and said nothing was more unsatisfactory to anyone than to find they had given their money in charity to a cheat.

The Rev. T. Graham seconded the resolution.

The Rev. T. H. Clark, who eulogised the efforts of the Clifton Branch Association, and the Rev. E. A. Fuller supported the resolution, which was cordially adopted.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson acknowledged the compliment paid to him, and said that he had heard of a case in Edinburgh in which a woman appealing on behalf of an interment for her dead husband obtained four coffins from different charitable individuals.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 137.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 5, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The Office-hours of the St. Saviour's Committee will in future be from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M., instead of from 9 to 11 A.M.

Applications by District Committees for grants from the District Committee Aid Fund should be accompanied by a statement of receipts and expenditure from the date of the last printed balance-sheet, and by an estimate of receipts and expenditure for the quarter for which a grant is asked.

As delay is frequently caused by inquiries between District Committees being misdirected, Hon. Secretaries are requested to observe the following particulars, and to have them indicated on their office-maps:—

1. A small detached portion of Chelsea, at the north-east corner of the parish of Kensington, is taken charge of by the Kensington Committee.
2. The Paddington district has been extended, so as to include that portion of Kilburn, on the west side of the Edgware Road, which lies between Kilburn Park Road and Willesden Lane.
3. The District of the North St. Pancras Committee is divided from that of the South St. Pancras Committee by a line commencing at Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, and running along Park Street, Camden Road (to Camden Station), and St. Paul's Road.
4. The St. Saviour's Committee has transferred a portion of its district to the Newington Committee, so that the Newington district, from St. Stephen's Church southwards, is bounded by the St. Olave's district.
5. The Brixton sub-district of the Lambeth Committee is separated from that of the Northern Committee by the London, Chatham and Dover Railway.
6. The boundary between Greenwich and Deptford is Deptford Creek.
7. The part of the parish of Camberwell taken charge of by the Peckham sub-office is bounded on the east by the western boundary of Deptford as far north as the Grand Surrey Canal, on the north by the Grand Surrey Canal as far as Trafalgar Road, on the west by a branch of the Canal, Rye Lane, western side of Peckham Rye, and a line running westward through Goose Green, and southward down Lordship Lane to Forest Hill, to the boundary of the Lewisham Union, and on the south by a portion of the Lewisham boundary.
8. The part of the Lewisham Union taken charge of by the Sydenham

Committee is bounded on the north by Brockley Lane to the eastern boundary of Camberwell, on the east by the Mid-Kent Railway, on the south by a portion of the Lewisham Union boundary, and on the west by the south-eastern boundary of Camberwell.

Letters of recommendation to the following hospitals can be obtained from the Secretary of the Council by the Honorary Secretary of any District Committee having suitable cases before it:—

### In-patients:

Charing Cross, 6; King's College, 19; London, 23; North London, 4; St. George's, 16; Westminster, 7; City of London for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, 4; Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, 1; British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street, 2; City of London Lying-in Hospital, 1; New Hospital for Women, 11; Royal Infirmary for Women and Children, 1; Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 10; Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, Chelsea, 1; North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, 3; National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, 33; Royal London Ophthalmic, 4; Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2; Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars, 4; London Homœopathic, 9.

### Out-patients:

King's College, 38; London, 6; North London, 24; Westminster, 11; Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, 2; City of London for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, 50; North London Consumption, Tottenham Court Road and Hampstead, 24; Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, 15; New Hospital for Women, 18; Royal Infirmary for Women and Children, 1; British Lying-in Hospital, 12; City of London Lying-in Hospital, 4; General Lying-in Hospital, 2; Royal Maternity Charity, 10; Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 47; North-Eastern Hospital for Children, 15; East London Hospital for Children, 9; Infirmary for Epilepsy and Paralysis, 1; Royal South London Ophthalmic, 18; Royal Orthopædic, 7; London Homœopathic, 4; Dental Hospital, 4; Public Dispensary, Stanhope Street, W.C., 2; Chelsea, Brompton, and Belgrave Dispensary, 2; Farringdon General Dispensary, 16; Western City Dispensary, 46; City of London Truss Society, 2; Provident Surgical Appliance Society, 2.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; W. W. Moore, Esq.; Major Fitz-Roy, Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; Captain Elliot, R.N., H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles' and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; Mrs. Barnett, E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Lord Montagu, Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End Old Town*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., A. D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; B. R. Balfour, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth and Putney*; A. Leveson-Gower, Esq., J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; E. Hyde, Esq., Rev. C. J. Meade, T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; G. Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Alsager Hay-Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trovelyan, Bart., K.C.B., Stephen Fuller, Esq., T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 42. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*; J. Dugdale, Esq., A. G. Middleton, Esq., *Visitors*.

The Secretary reported that more than 700 out of the 1,000 £10 shares, which the promoters of the National Penny Bank



had announced that they must dispose of before starting, had been taken.

#### PARISH STONEYARDS.

Mr. Edgcombe asked whether any members who were Guardians could give him any information as to the result of abolishing parish stoneyards.

The Rev. H. P. Kelly said that it had been found in Shoreditch that the old hands used to earn as much as 2s.—the maximum, whilst men who were new to the work could hardly earn 6d. Practised men found it idle, easy work. No ill results had followed from shutting up the yard.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending April 24 the receipts had been £2. 12s. for the General Fund, £5 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £975. 0s. 10d. and £269. 1s. 3d. respectively; that they had re-considered a suggestion made by the Books and Forms Sub-Committee, and had ordered that the words 'whether . . . furnishing Reports or,' be omitted from the Information Paper with reference to the Weekly Returns; and that they did not propose to meet on the 13th inst., as there would be no meeting of Council on the 17th, Whit-Monday.

#### RECOMMENDATION.

A grant of £25 was made to the Bethnal Green District on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee.

#### TEMPORARY RELIEF AND PERMANENT BENEFIT.

The Council then resumed consideration of the case submitted by the St. George's Committee. A woman had been deserted six years ago by her husband, having two children, and 30s. was asked for, to purchase clothes and boots for them, as they could not attend school regularly for want of clothing.

The woman is of good character; and, looking to the fact that she is unable to be away from home the whole day, appears to earn as much as can reasonably be expected. The amount of her earnings, though sufficient to keep herself and family, so far as bare maintenance goes, without assistance from the parish, is insufficient to allow her to pay down a lump sum of money to provide her children with clothes and shoes to attend school. The Committee cannot, however, say that the gift of clothes would permanently benefit the case, as it would not enable the woman in any way to renew them when worn-out.

The case had been brought to the notice of the Committee by the Divisional Committee of the School Board, and the Committee asked whether in the opinion of the Council 'relief in the way of clothes or boots should be given to enable the children to go to school.'

The following amendment, moved by Mr. A. H. Hill, had become the substantive motion:—

That it is inexpedient to remove cases of the class quoted from the ordinary operation of the District Committee, acting at its discretion within the limits of its ascertained means, and in accordance with the general principles of this Society.

To this Miss Octavia Hill had moved the following amendment:—

That the St. George's Committee having stated that temporary relief to the woman whose case is submitted by them is not likely to be permanently beneficial, the Council is of opinion that such a case cannot be assisted from the funds of the Society in accordance with the principles of the Society, though the case might with propriety be referred to individuals or local authorities, as is done in other cases where temporary relief is required.

A letter from the St. George's Committee was read, asking permission to withdraw the last sentence of the above extract from their letter.

Mr. A. H. Hill consented to modify his resolution, so as to make it read—

That whilst fully recognising the beneficial influence of a sound elementary education in promoting the permanent improvement of the poor, the Council consider that it is inexpedient to remove cases of the class quoted from the ordinary operation of the District Committee, acting at its dis-

cretion within the limits of its ascertained means, and in accordance with the general principles of the Society.

Miss Hill obtained permission to make her amendment read as follows:—

As it appears from the facts, as stated in the case submitted by the St. George's Committee, that temporary relief is not likely to be permanently beneficial, the Council is of opinion that the case could not be assisted from the funds of the Society in accordance with the principles of the Society, though it might with propriety be referred to individuals or local agencies, as is done in other cases where temporary relief is desirable, but not likely to be permanently beneficial.

The Rev. W. H. Langherne urged that it was the duty of the Society to give relief to all cases suitable for charitable assistance, when there was no other agency able to give it. He thought that this was such a case.

Sir Charles Trevelyan supported this view, and pointed out that such cases as the present especially needed the careful investigation which the Society could give.

The Secretary thought that there was a real ambiguity in the words 'permanent use,' which were adopted in the Suggested Rules, and subsequently in the Manual. They might be understood to limit assistance to those persons only who could be set up by a single grant, or to include assistance which was substantial, as distinguished from that which merely alleviated. This seemed to him the real issue, and the two views were in some measure represented by the motion and the amendment.

Mr. Bond could not support Miss Hill's amendment. It was impossible to lay down a principle that would cover all cases in regard to temporary relief being permanently beneficial; he was in favour, therefore, of sending the matter back to the District Committee without precise definition.

The Rev. C. J. Meade thought that grants were given to many cases in which the prospect of permanent benefit was not clearer than in this. For instance, his Committee had made a grant to provide a sick child with milk.

Mr. Jodrell entreated the Council to be most careful how they relaxed their rules. Charitable relief administered by individuals could not be counted on, and therefore did not pauperise people so much as relief administered by a Committee. If care was not taken, the poor would come to look on the Society, as they already looked on the Hospitals, as possessing a fund in which they had a vested right. It was not a question whether education was of permanent use. The children would be educated, in any case. The question was whether the Committee should take the case out of the hands of the Guardians. Reference of the case to private charity was quite a different matter from relieving it out of the funds of the Committee.

Miss Hill's amendment was then put and lost, 10 voting for it, and 20 against it.

Mr. Wood said that Mr. Hill's resolution was no answer to the question from St. George's; so, whether it was carried or not, he would take the earliest opportunity of moving—

That the Council is of opinion that the case submitted by the St. George's Committee is one suitable for charitable assistance, and that the Committee should not leave such a case to the operation of the Poor-law, unless they have no available means of dealing with it, either by reference to others, or by a grant from their own funds, or otherwise.

The Chairman ruled that this motion could not then be put. Mr. Hill's motion was put, and carried by 17 to 8.

A letter was read from Mr. Solly, stating that publicity had lately been given to a resolution passed by the Council on the 27th December, 1869, and pointing out that it was passed under a misapprehension, he having made no claim on the Society.

The resolution in question was as follows:—

That the present Council of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity, considering itself a new Council working a new society, cannot recognise any claims of any person connected with any previous society; neither does it consider itself justified in applying any funds



it may in future receive to any other object than that for which they were especially subscribed.

Mr. A. H. Hill having briefly explained the circumstances under which the resolution was passed, and the Secretary having stated that the resolution was passed in September (not December) 1869, it was resolved, on Mr. Hill's motion—

That Mr. Solly's letter, dated April 16, 1875, be entered on the Minutes, and that a marginal note be entered opposite the Resolution of September 27, 1869, referring forward to that letter, and also to Mr. Solly's letter dated August 28, 1869, to the Hon. Secretary of this Society, which is kept among the other letters of that date, as well as to copies of letters from Lord Lichfield and Lord Lyttelton, dated respectively June 11, 1872, and March 28, 1872, now handed in with Mr. Solly's letters.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, May 1, 1875:—*Donations*: A. Hooper, Esq., £5; A. H. M. Long, Esq., £2. 7s. 6d.; Dr. W. V. Lush, 10s. 6d.; A. Rose, Esq., £2. 2s.; Hon. Mrs. W. Tomline, £5. *Annual*: A. P. Fletcher, Esq., £5. 5s.; Miss Morse, £1. 1s.

The following business stands for Monday, May 10:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee—

1. That one-half of the contributions recently obtained from certain firms in the City be transferred to the City Committee.

2. That the Council pay half the costs in a suit, amounting to £10. 4s.

3. That a grant of £50, including a grant of £20 towards a Permanent Loan Fund, be made to the St. George's-in-the-East Committee.

4. That a grant of £20 be made to the Shoreditch Committee.

Replies from District Committees to the circular of the Council with reference to Mr. Peek's offer to be brought up from the Administrative Committee. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twentieth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Dr. Hawksley, Dr. Moon, Messrs. T. Clarke, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson.

It was resolved, on Mr. Tait's motion:—

'That the Committee meet in future (on Wednesdays) at 3.30 P.M.'

The Committee resumed consideration of Head II. a: 'What more can be done through existing agencies, by improvements in system of working?'

It was resolved, on Mr. Tait's motion:—

'That it is too often a serious injury to the blind that articles made by them should be sold as "blind manufactures," and that it would be an improvement in the system of working Blind Institutions, and more conducive to the general welfare of the blind, if advantage were taken of the open market to secure the sale of such articles at their intrinsic market value.'

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the Brighton Charity Organisation Society, 1874.

Third Annual Report of the Provident Knowledge Society.

Forty-third Report of the Royal Pimlico Dispensary, 1875.

Report of the Haverstock Hill and Malden Road Provident Dispensary, 1875.

Classified List of Reformatory and Preventive Institutions connected with the Reformatory and Refuge Union, 34 Parliament Street. 6d.

Stray Thoughts on London, by a Layman. (Elliot Stock.)

What has Christianity Done for the Poorer Classes? Three lectures delivered in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, on the evenings of Tuesdays, November 24, December 1, and December 8, 1874, by the Rev. J. Hannah, Vicar of Brighton. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of April 1875 was 35,041, and 56,766 received outdoor relief, making a total of 91,807. This was a decrease of 564 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,026, 17,741, and 21,484 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 474. This was a decrease of 8 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 322 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.				
Kensington .....	4	6	5	15	..	1	3	4	4	6	..	10	29	5	6	2
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	4	5	2	4	8
Paddington .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	8	..	13	13	7	0
Chelsea .....	..	1	3	4	..	..	2	2	1	..	..	1	7	..	8	2
St. George's:—																
St. George's Division.	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	4	6	9	..	..
Westminster do.	2	2	4	8	1	1	1	3	9	1	..	2	12	4	1	..
Westminster:—																
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	4	6	8
St. Marylebone .....	2	3	4	9	..	4	5	9	2	..	3	5	23	4	7	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	3	..	2	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	3	1
South St. Pancras .....	..	2	..	2	..	1	3	4	..	..	1	1	7	..	2	..
Islington .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	6	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	2	..
Strand .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	2	5	4
Holborn .....	1	..	5	6	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	3	4	10	1
City .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	10	12	1
Shoreditch .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	4	4	..	3	..
Bethnal Green .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	2	3	..	5	..
Whitechapel .....	2	1	..	3	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	5	4	..	..
St. George's-in-the-East	..	..	2	2	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	6	9	..	..
Stepney .....	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	2	..
Mile End Old Town ..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..
Poplar .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	..
St. Saviour's .....	..	3	3	..	5	1	6	..	2	..	2	..	11	..	3	1
*Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Lambeth:— { North ..	..	6	6	1	1	1	3	2	..	..	2	..	16	3	8	..
{ South ..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	3	2	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Battersea .....	1	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	6	..	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Camberwell:—																
Grove Lane .....	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	5	1	1	..
Peckham .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Greenwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	4	4	1	1	6
Deptford .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	7
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	8
Lewisham .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	1	7
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Total .....	13	21	52	86	3	22	24	49	36	12	15	13	76	211	92	91

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**KENSINGTON.**—*Vagrants.*—The following letters have been exchanged between the Honorary Secretary of this Committee and the Private Secretary of the President of the Local Government Board:—

Mr. Edgecombe wrote on February 9:—

'You have been good enough to say that if we would point out precisely in what manner the Poor-law Authorities could assist in putting down vagrancy, you would lay the matter before Mr. Selater-Booth, and ascertain if anything could be done to meet our views.

'The Poor-law supplies the vagrants with supper, bed, and breakfast, but does not seem to us to make any sufficient provision for the exceptional case of a man who is in distress in the middle of the day, and who has a reasonable excuse for being on the road. We refer to men really on the tramp in search of work, destitute persons travelling to the house of some friend from whom they expect help, and the like. We are aware that such persons can obtain admission to the House by a process which involves some difficulty and delay; but on the supposition of the truth of the vagrant's story, detention in the workhouse will often seriously interfere with the objects he has in view, which is to arrive at some definite place as soon as possible.

'Habitual begging impostors are aware of the difficulty, and are careful to make the most of it; consequently we fear it will be found impossible to put a stop to street-begging unless the benevolent are satisfied that a person who has a fair reason to be destitute at a distance from his home is certain to be relieved without being compelled to submit to what many of them will consider the unnecessary hardship of detention in the workhouse. We would suggest that the authorities of each Union be empowered to relieve with bread such vagrants as they shall think fit, after the imposition of a labour-test sufficiently severe to deter persons not really in urgent distress from applying. They would of course give no such relief



to any resident in their own Union, and in the exercise of their discretion they will probably refuse this form of relief to any habitual vagrants or other person whose story is obviously untrue; this would leave a very small remainder to be dealt with—for we are well aware that most vagrants are either unwilling to find work, or incapable of performing it—but it is the existence of this small remainder which makes it impossible for us wholly to suppress the practice of almsgiving in the streets.

'We have ourselves tried several plans to supply this want; for a considerable time we were in the habit of giving bread to be eaten on the premises to persons who seemed in distress, and told a plausible story; but as we had no means of applying a labour-test, and necessarily had not the familiarity with the habitual vagrants which is possessed by the workhouse officials, we have no doubt that in very many instances we gave to persons for whom such relief was not intended.

'We subsequently obtained permission of the Workhouse authorities to send on applicants to their stoneyard, where they were set to work and relieved at our expense. This arrangement, however, has been recently discontinued, in some degree owing to difficulties which might, perhaps, have been got over; but chiefly because we were not satisfied that the strict supervision, upon which the success of the whole system depended, could be exercised by officials who were not under our control, and were not responsible to their own masters for this portion of their work. We have conferred with some of the Guardians—with whom we have always been in close correspondence—and find that they do not consider themselves at liberty to give their officers any directions upon the matter, which, as they understand their instructions, is outside the work for which the Poor-law Regulations provide.

'We have therefore, for the present, been compelled to fall back on our old plan of giving relief at our own Office.

'We would wish to point out that, even supposing ourselves able to exercise the necessary discrimination, it is not desirable that such an important public duty should be left in the hands of private individuals like ourselves, for the following reasons:—Our views, modes of action, and ability to give relief may at any time undergo a change, and, however satisfactorily we may perform our self-imposed task, there will always remain many who will doubt our power or our discretion, or even be ignorant of our existence.

'We understand that it is likely to be objected that our suggestion involves the admission of the dangerous principle, that the State is to provide labour for the destitute. We would point out, however, that our proposed labour-task is not labour the equivalent of which is represented by the bread given, but is only a test of good faith destitution, and in this respect in no way differs from the stoneyard or workroom tests which are now daily being imposed on able-bodied paupers.

'It appears to us very desirable that the system should be introduced over the whole metropolis, but should the Local Government Board feel any doubt on the legal points involved, and be willing to allow the experiment to be tried in the Kensington Union, we will gladly pay any expenses that may be necessary to give it a fair trial.'

Mr. P. L. Sclater replied as follows, on April 8:—

'I am directed by the Local Government Board, with reference to your letter of the 9th of February last, to state that they have given full consideration to the suggestions of the Kensington Committee for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy, with regard to the relief of casual paupers at other hours than those provided for by the Metropolitan Houseless Poor Acts, but that the Board are not prepared to make such regulations as would be necessary to carry out the proposals of the Committee.'

ST. GEORGE'S.—*Case of Robert Wylie.*—On April 26, Robert Wylie, who was committed to the Sessions, at the instance of this Committee, for obtaining money under false pretences from Mrs. de Rothschild (see *Reporter*, pp. 58 and 62), was brought up at the Middlesex Sessions for sentence as an incorrigible rogue and vagabond. Several previous convictions were proved against him, and he was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

LADIES' SANITARY ASSOCIATION.—A course of thirteen lectures to ladies, on Physiology applied to Health and Education, will be given by Miss Chessar (member of the London School Board), at the Cavendish Rooms, 71 Mortimer Street, every Saturday, at 3 P.M., until July 24, when the last of the course will be delivered.

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### DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.  
FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.  
PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.  
ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Ann's, Soho)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Park Street, N.  
HACKNEY—Old Town Hall, E.  
ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.  
SHOREDITCH—56 St. John's Road, Hoxton, N.  
BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
WHITECHAPEL UNION—194 Commercial Road, E.  
ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—194 Commercial Road, E.  
STEPNEY UNION—598 Commercial Road, E.  
MILE-END OLD TOWN—116 Mile End Road, E.  
POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.  
ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK—9 St. George's Circus, S.E.  
NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.  
ST. OLAVE'S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.  
LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner's Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.  
WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.  
BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.  
CLAPHAM—3 Polygon, S.W.  
CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.  
DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.  
WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter's Hill Road, S.E.  
LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.  
SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 138.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 12, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The Central Office will be closed on Whit-Monday. There will, therefore, be no meeting of the Council next week, nor any meeting of the Administrative Committee to-morrow, Thursday. The Administrative Committee will meet as usual on Thursday the 20th. As there is no meeting of Council the *Reporter* will not be issued next week.

A few sets of the Annual Reports of the District Committees for 1874 are being bound up with the Sixth Annual Report of the Council. Copies can be had by application to the Secretary, 15 Buckingham Street, price 2s. 6d., or post-free for 3s. Those who wish for them are requested to give their orders at once.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, Esq., Miss Merington, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Howes, *Fulham*; W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; R. Dundas, Esq., W. W. Moore, Esq., Major FitzRoy, Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles's and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, H. A. Herbert, Esq., *Shoreditch*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Lord Monteagle, Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End Old Town*; A. D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; B. R. Balfour, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; H. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., K.C.B., Stephen Fuller, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 39. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*.

A letter from General Bainbrigge was read, stating that the Greenwich Committee looked on widows of good character with children as being in the fringe of pauperism which they endeavoured by degrees but permanently, to cut off. It was desirable not to let such cases sink into the out-relief list, 'whilst, on the other hand, if all widows with two children got 30s. from the Committee, there would be a general lowering both of their wages and of their independence.' If a private person assisted them they could not rely on this continuing, as they would if the Committee took their case up. The Committee would, therefore, endeavour to find a private person to give old clothing to one child only, in such a case as that submitted by St. George's, and to pay fees.

A letter from Dr. West was read. Dr. West stated that the Committee of the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, had decided to receive none as out-patients whose parents were either earning more than 30s. a week wages, or receiving parish relief, and asked whether the Committees of the Society would undertake to verify the statements made on these points by applicants.

It was pointed out that the Society had already offered to give such assistance to charities, and the matter was referred to the Administrative Committee to consider in detail.

The Secretary reported that the St. George's Committee had appointed Mr. Robert Dundas to be one of their representatives during the absence of Major Sanford, and that the Islington Committee had appointed Mr. T. B. Spencer during the absence of Mr. Burdett Roberts.

Mr. Seton-Karr stated that he had recently been present at an ordinary weekly meeting of the Chester Charity Organisation Association; the meeting was well attended, and the Association seemed to be working on the same principles as the London Society.

## QUESTIONS.

The Secretary asked, on behalf of the Whitechapel Committee, whether anything was known of Millicent Joslin, a woman of about 30, said to be deserted by her husband.

Mr. Seton-Karr asked whether anything was known of a woman named Daisy Cove, at present resident in Chelsea.

Major FitzRoy asked what success District Committees had had in getting individuals or special charities to take charge of deserving chronic cases. The St. George's Committee had recently obtained the names of several persons willing to make allowances to such cases.

Mr. Edgecombe said that the Kensington Committee had twice issued circulars on the subject, and had received several favourable replies. They thought it essential that the donor should be put in communication with the person benefited; they had no wish to establish a 'chronic case fund.'

Sir Charles Trevelyan said that much had been done in this way by the St. Peter's and the other Parochial Councils of Charity in the St. George's Union.

Miss Octavia Hill said that in the St. Mary's division of Marylebone it was found possible, now that doles had been



stopped, to make regular allowances from a local fund to all the deserving chronic cases.

Sir Charles Trevelyan called attention to the existence of an Educational Aid Society, for supplying clothes &c. in Deptford, and asked whether similar societies had been formed in other districts.

Mr. Miner said that a Committee had been formed for the district west of Soho Square. The Committee inquired carefully into cases, and made it a condition of their grants that those to whom they gave them should not go about seeking more relief.

Mr. Fuller believed that a society with the same object, which had existed for some time at Reading, had only had to spend about £10.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported that during the week ending May 1 the receipts had been £21. 6s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £782. 13s. 4d. and £244. 1s. 3d. respectively.

Also, that the Finance and Inquiry Supervision Sub-Committees had considered the reference made on March 17 with regard to the work of the Secretary's department, but had postponed their decision till the Committee on Visits to District Offices should have reported.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

It was agreed, on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, that one-half of several donations recently obtained in the City for the District Committee Aid Fund should be transferred to the account of the City Committee.

Also, that a grant of £30 should be made to the St. George's East Committee for its general purposes, and a further grant of £20 towards a Permanent Loan Fund.

Also, that a grant of £20 should be made to the Shoreditch Committee.

The Secretary was instructed to call the attention of the St. George's East and Shoreditch Committees to the fact that members of those Committees were not present, as requested by Council, when the grants were made. [The representatives from Shoreditch came in subsequently.]

#### MR. PEEK'S OFFER.

Replies from thirteen District Committees to the circular issued by the Council with reference to Mr. Peek's offer of £1,000 a year, for three years, were brought up and read.

The reply from the St. George's Committee, suggesting that the contribution should be paid into the District Committee Aid Fund, was printed in the *Reporter* for April 21; the other letters dealt only with matters of detail, all expressing willingness to co-operate with the School Board so far as the plan of the Society allowed.

The Secretary stated that he had forwarded a copy of the letter from the St. George's Committee to Mr. Peek, and that Mr. Peek had suggested that the 5th paragraph of the 'arrangement' (printed in the same issue of the *Reporter*) should be altered so as to read as follows:—

This contribution will be paid into the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council, and will be granted out to the District Committees on application by them, special regard being had in future to the amount of expense incurred by each Committee in carrying out Mr. Peek's wishes as above stated.

The 5th clause in the original arrangement was as follows:—

This contribution will be treated by the Council as a separate fund, and will be divided, in the course of the year, amongst the District Committees, on application by them, in proportion to the extra expense, whether

in the way of establishment or otherwise, to which co-operation with the School Board Committees is putting them.

Mr. Wightman-Wood moved that the alteration be accepted.

Mr. Seton-Karr seconded the motion, which was supported by Sir Charles Trevelyan.

Mr. A. H. Hill wished that the contribution could be simply paid into the District Committee Aid Fund, so that, in the words of the St. George's Committee, it 'might flow out thence in the direction in which it was most wanted, and so fulfil Mr. Peek's wishes of strengthening the hands of the poorer Committees.'

After some conversational discussion, the motion was put and carried, 20 voting for it.

The draft of a letter to the Chairman of the School Board was read and approved, and the Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, May 8, 1875:—*Donations*: Countess of Derby, £2; Mrs. Rooper, £1; A. F. Walter, Esq., £10. *Annual*: Lieut.-Colonel Lyon-Fremantle, £3; Marquis of Sligo, £5; Lieut. J. G. Uppleby, R.A., £1. 1s.

The following business stands for Monday, May 24:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee—

1. That the Council pay half the costs in a suit, amounting to £10. 4s.
2. That a clerk, on a salary not exceeding £100, in lieu of the two clerks now employed in the Organising Secretary's office at salaries of 25s. a week each, be sanctioned.
3. That the Inquiry Officer's salary be raised from 30s. a week to 35s.
4. That the Council pay the costs of a prosecution by the Wandsworth Committee, amounting to £14. 3s.
5. That a grant of £25 be made to the Mile End Old Town Committee towards a Permanent Loan Fund, on the usual conditions.

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-first meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, Miss Erskine, Messrs. D. Conolly, Alsager Hay Hill, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. M. Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee took Head II. b into consideration:—'What more can be done through existing agencies—by opening up new employments?'

It was agreed that a list of employments should be brought up at a subsequent meeting, to be introduced by the following preamble:—

'That the Committee consider that the following employments are suitable for the Blind, provided they can be followed in suitable localities and within a convenient distance from their homes.'

It was resolved, on General Bainbrigge's motion:—

'That this Committee, considering that workshops are among the most useful of existing agencies both for training and employing the Blind, recommend that they should be established in greater numbers, in order that in each populous district there may be one so placed that the blind work-people employed in it may not have too far to walk to it from their homes.'

#### REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Strand and Holborn Committees.

*The Original*. By the late Thomas Walker, M.A. Fifth edition, edited and arranged under distinct heads, with additions, by Dr. W. A. Guy, F.R.S. Renshaw, 12s. 6d. (Presented by the Editor.)

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of April 1875 was 34,652, and 56,412 received outdoor relief, making a total of 91,064. This was a decrease of 743 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,380, 17,014, and 20,750 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 465. This was a decrease of 9 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 183 on the corresponding day of last year.



## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.			
Kensington .....	4	5	9	1	..	1	2	1	..	3	14	5	3
Fulham .....	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4	4	6
Paddington .....	3	..	3	..	1	1	6	5	1	12	16	14	2
Chelsea .....	4	..	4	..	1	1	1	1	2	4	9	9	..
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division.	1	2	3	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	18	15	3
Westminster do.	1	3	4	..	1	1	3	3	1	7	..	..	..
Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	2	4
St. Marylebone .....	1	4	2	7	6	3	2	1	..	3	19	3	5
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	3	5	..	1
South St. Pancras .....	4	1	4	9	5	1	1	1	2	3	18	4	3
Islington .....	2	6	8	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	10	..	1
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	2	..	..
Strand .....	2	2	2	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	5	8
Holborn .....	1	4	5	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	7	7	5
City .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	2	14	20
Shoreditch .....	1	3	4	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	7	..	10
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	3	..	..	..	2	2	1	5	8	2	..
Whitechapel .....	3	2	5	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	8	5	1
St. George's-in-the-East	1	4	5	..	3	3	..	1	..	1	9	6	1
Stepney .....	1	1	3	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	6	3	1
Mile End Old Town .....	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	2	4	1	1
Poplar .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	1
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	3	1	5	3	3	6	10	..	2	12	23	6	3
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	5	4
Lambeth:—													
North .....	..	2	2	2	..	2	2	..	..	2	8	3	5
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	1	2
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	2
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	3	..	13
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	2	2	4	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	8	..	1
Peckham .....	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	11	..	2
Greenwich .....	2	2	4	..	1	1	1	1	1	6	11	..	6
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	3	..	3
Woolwich .....	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	6	..	1
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	4	10
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	1	2
Total .....	27	23	51	101	8	23	14	45	46	28	717	93	244
	123	102	73										

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

ST. GEORGE'S (HANOVER SQUARE) UNION.—*Special Meeting.*—A special general meeting of the members of this Committee and their friends was held at Grosvenor House on Saturday, by the invitation of His Grace the Duke of Westminster, the Chairman of the Committee, and there was a full attendance both of ladies and gentlemen. Sir Rutherford Alcock was called to the chair, after a statement, by Major FitzRoy, that the Duke, who was to have presided, was unable to be present, owing to the death of a relative.

The resolutions of the Committee convening the meeting were read by Mr. P. Ralli, M.P., one of the Honorary Secretaries.

The Chairman said that all would feel deep regret at the noble Duke's absence, and at the cause of it. With regard to the object of the meeting, the work of organising charity, undertaken not quite six years ago, was a very large one, and it was not surprising to find that it had, up to the present time, been only partially carried out. It was a work which could not be done in a day, or a year; but, nevertheless, great progress had been made. Difficulties had been met with and overcome, and some remained; but the Society had shown that the best solution of difficulties and doubts was action, and as the Society was still hard at work, there was little reason for doubt that in the end it would arrive at the accomplishment of its task. The primary object of the Society was not to give relief, but to organise charity, so as to prevent its misapplication; for this misapplication was a very serious evil in itself, tending to pauperism, and to destroy the self-respect and self-dependence of all who received misdirected charity. The work of organising charity was a very gigantic one, and he expressed himself as desirous of seeing the charities of London generally connected by the co-operation of those who administered them, in such a way that there should be a constant interchange of information, so as to prevent

the overlapping of charitable aid; and he said he was greatly pleased to find that the clergy had shown a disposition to aid the organisation, and that the Poor Law Guardians had co-operated with it by availing themselves of the services of the inquiry officers. Thus a very tangible benefit had resulted from the operations of the Society, whose committees were now spread over all the Poor-law districts of London, some with more support and some with less, but all working to the same ends of relieving the poor by such means as would afford permanent improvement in their condition. To meet the case of the aged poor, nothing but an annuity was applicable, and the Poor-law had provided a means to deal with them; but for the class who were making what had been termed an 'heroic effort' to struggle against difficulties, a different treatment was required to save their independence, and preserve them from falling into the ranks of pauperism. To help these some assistance ought to be forthcoming from the large endowments which were given for the poor in the City of London, and had long ceased to be applied for the benefit of the class for whom they were intended, though the 'gifts' had enormously increased in value since they were first given. It was to be hoped that means would be found of utilising and controlling these enormous funds, and of administering these and all other charity funds in such a way that the deserving would be relieved so as to be permanently benefited. He remarked upon the progress made in educating public opinion in the principles of the Society, and said it could not be doubted that mendicancy had been in great measure suppressed, and that the public had largely seen the evil of giving relief in the streets. Major FitzRoy, one of the hon. secretaries, had prepared a paper as to the manner in which the Committee were dealing with the chronic cases of poor deserving people, and he would now lay that information before the meeting.

Major FitzRoy said that last year the Committee reported they were anxious to carry out one part of their original programme, which said, 'There will always be a class of poor which it ought to be the special duty of the Committee to look after, namely, the honest and respectable residents, with well-authenticated characters, who, through age and infirmity or calamity, are incapable of earning their subsistence.' There were, the Committee found, several societies in London available, wholly or in part, to meet cases of this description; but there were cases which these societies did not touch, and which might be beneficially assisted by charitable individuals. If the charitable were disposed to help, by contributing the necessary funds, the Committee would gladly undertake to superintend a provision so made for these necessitous cases. Such were the points put before the public in the report; but the results, he was sorry to say, did not come to much at the time. A Sub-Committee was appointed last autumn, and they considered that some good typical cases should be selected, and a circular specially addressed to ladies on the subject. This was done, and it being found that money would be forthcoming to help such cases, it became necessary to draw up rules to show what would and what would not be suitable cases to be thus relieved. He read these rules, which were in effect that the person must be unable to work, through old age, infirmity, or other cause, have a good character, have resided in the locality, and have an insufficient income. In addition, the former habits of life were to be considered, and good reason to be shown why the case should not be left to the Poor-law. Of forty or fifty ladies who were applied to there were twelve or thirteen offers to take a case, but even these offers exceeded the number of cases the Committee had on their books; and though something was done to invite cases, yet the Committee were careful not to give too much publicity to what was being done, for fear of unsuitable cases being sent in, and disappointment being the result.

Sir Baldwyn Leighton then spoke as to the expediency of obtaining more precise information with regard to such existing charitable funds as could be made available for the poor of the district, and moved: 'That a Sub-Committee be appointed to look into this matter, especially with a view to promoting habits of providence, and that they collect, and put in a form available for reference, information as to the manner in which—1st. Existing charitable institutions and funds may be utilised; and 2nd. Provident funds may be set on foot.

Mr. P. Ralli, M.P., seconded the motion, which was supported by General Lewis.

Mr. Phillips Jodrell gave his hearty support to the principle of having provident funds, and of aiding those who aided themselves; but thought that the two parts of the resolution had little to do with each other, and that the Committee ought ere this to have obtained, and in fact had obtained, pretty full information as to the local charities.

The motion was agreed to.

Major FitzRoy then urged the necessity of personal aid, and suggested that some members and associates could give aid through one part of the year, and others through the other part. He also spoke of the help which could be given to other districts, and moved that a list of volunteers should be opened, and that it should be the first duty of those who undertook the work to organise a plan by which it could be permanently carried on, and that they should report progress on the first Wednesday in June.



Dr. Hawksley seconded the motion, which was carried, after being spoken to by Mr. Fuller and Mr. Bosanquet.

The next matter was—'To discuss the best mode of dealing with the large metropolitan pauper element, consisting of widows and children.'

Sir Charles Trevelyan moved, 1st.—That families, consisting of widows and children of the working age, should be assisted to remove to places where they can obtain constant employment on good wages. 2nd.—That the widowed mothers of young families, whose earnings are insufficient for their support and education, should receive such aid as may enable them to maintain and educate their children until they are old enough to work for themselves.

Sir Charles spoke at some length, and eventually, much opposition being shown to the second part of the resolution, the first only was put and carried, and the consideration of the second was adjourned to the next ordinary meeting of the Committee.

Thanks were voted, on Lord Claud Hamilton's motion, seconded by Mr. Morris, to the Duke of Westminster, for his kindness in allowing the meeting to be held at Grosvenor House; and this brought the proceedings to a conclusion.

THE CASE OF MRS. MARKS.—The Editor of the *School Board Chronicle* writes to the *Times*:—'Will you permit me to call attention to a point which has apparently been overlooked in connection with the case of Mrs. Marks, who applied to Sir Robert Carden on Saturday for protection against an officer of the London School Board? Mrs. Marks, it seems, has five children to provide for by the labour of her own hands, with the help of outdoor pauper relief; and her plan is to send two children, aged 9 and 7, to school, and to keep her eldest girl, aged 11, at home, to take care of the two children who are under school age. Thus the eldest girl gets no schooling. The purpose of the educational legislation of the last five years is that no children under 13 years of age shall grow up without education, and the Elementary Education Act (1870) Amendment Act, generally known as "The Education Act, 1873," as interpreted by the Local Government Board, makes special provision for cases like that of the eldest child of Mrs. Marks. According to that Act the outdoor relief received by Mrs. Marks is illegal so long as her eldest child is absent from school, and the amount might be disallowed by the auditor; but it is the duty of the Guardians, after taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration, to allow Mrs. Marks a sufficient sum per week, in the shape of outdoor relief, to enable the poor woman to send her children of school age to school. Now, Mrs. Marks could for about 1s. a week and, say, one cheap meal per day, obtain the services of a girl over school age (13 years) to take care of the two infants, and, in accordance with the advice given the Guardians in similar cases by the Local Government Board, it is the constructive if not the absolute duty of the Guardians to allow Mrs. Marks, say, an additional 1s. 6d. a week to pay for the services of such a girl to mind the children, if that should appear to them to be the best and most economical method of enabling the eldest child of the house to attend school. I will mention only one corresponding case:—A poor woman—an outdoor pauper at Wrexham—wanted to keep a child, 11 years of age, at home for only six weeks, during her confinement, and the Local Government Board, on being applied to for advice, said the sickness of the parent did not appear to them to be a "reasonable excuse," within the meaning of the Act, for the non-attendance of the child at school, and they added—"The Board are, moreover, disposed to think that if the sickness of the parent be such as to require assistance, such assistance should be the subject of additional relief." So the law provides for the education of Mrs. Marks' little girl without driving the family reluctantly into the workhouse.'

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Friday, the 7th inst., Lord Elington gave notice that on that day month he would call attention to the case of Mrs. Marks, and move that the cordial co-operation of School Boards and Boards of Guardians was essential for the just and beneficial exercise of the powers conferred upon School Boards for enforcing school attendance.

THE POST OFFICE ORPHAN HOME INSTITUTE.—'The experience of another year,' says the Committee of the Post Office Orphan Home Institute, in his recently issued Report, 'has given additional proof of the advantages derived from the Boarding-out System which the Committee have from the first adopted, and they cannot refrain from here expressing their unqualified satisfaction at the manner in which it has operated in connection with this Institute, and their conviction that the system might with advantage be adopted by some of the large public charities. As previously observed, the appearance and demeanour of the children bear unmistakable testimony to the advantages of giving them a knowledge of home life and its duties; and the Committee consider that the present arrangement, by which the children are enabled to associate daily in domestic life with children of their own (and sometimes of a higher) grade, is to be preferred to that of their being trained in a vast central establish-

ment, where they can have little intercourse or acquaintance with that outside work-a-day world in which they will soon be compelled to take an important part. Under the Boarding-out System, discipline and order do not become synonyms for monotony and dullness, while the happiness and contentment which are stamped upon each countenance lead the Committee confidently to anticipate that many of these children will look back with pleasure upon the days when they were under the care of the institute, and regard them as amongst their dearest and tenderest associations.'

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### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

'The Charity Organisation Society have done good service, not only directly in the results actually produced by them in London, but also indirectly in the attention which they have secured everywhere to the whole difficult question of the administration of charity. In this last way "A Handy-Book for Visitors of the Poor in London" (Longmans), put together by their Secretary, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be found very useful. Its special information applies more particularly to London, and will be invaluable to those who are engaged in any way in ministering to the wants of the London poor; but the general principles and suggestions, as well as a good deal of the information about poor laws, sanitary laws, provident societies, &c., may be studied with advantage by kindly disposed people everywhere.'—*Guardian*.

'We have much pleasure in bringing to notice this very useful little publication, which will supply a need often felt. The writer is thoroughly well acquainted with the subject, and has condensed in it the result of much personal experience. From our own acquaintance with the London poor, and the difficulties which have to be encountered in the administration of judicious relief, we feel satisfied that the advice given in this little brochure is sound. We trust the perusal of this book will lead to a healthier course of action—not restraining, but guiding charity, and rendering it a blessing, not a curse.'—*Christian Observer*.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities, and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co's., 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 139.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 26, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

District Committees are requested to observe whether the information, especially as to office hours, in the last (eightieth) thousand of the Manual, recently sent to them, is accurate; and, if not, to furnish a correction at once to the Secretary of the Council.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Howes, *Fulham*; J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., *Chelsea*; W. W. Moore, Esq., Major FitzRoy, Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles's and Bloomsbury*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; Mrs. Barnett, *Stepney*; Lord Monteaule, *Mile End Old Town*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; B. R. Balfour, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., *Lambeth*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; A. Annesley, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Sir C. E. Trevelyan, G. Blount, Esq., S. Fuller, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 31. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

### TEMPORARY RELIEF AND PERMANENT BENEFIT.

A letter was read from the St. George's Committee, requesting a further opinion from the Council as to the best mode for District Committees to deal with widows and deserted women with children.

The following draft reply, prepared by direction of the Administrative Committee, was read and ordered to be set down for consideration at the next meeting:—

1. I am directed to acknowledge your letter of the 18th inst., asking for

a further opinion from the Council as to the mode in which District Committees should deal with applications on behalf of widows and deserted wives for clothing to enable their children to attend school.

2. It has been suggested that inasmuch as such applications are likely to be repeated if the children are young, this whole class of cases is excluded from direct assistance by District Committees by the rule which provides that they should only give assistance out of their own funds, 'in cases in which temporary assistance is likely to prove of permanent use.'

3. There is some ambiguity about the words 'permanent use,' but the Council are of opinion that they must not be confined to such assistance as will give people a fresh start, and so raise them above the necessity of applying again for help, but must be understood to include such benefit as is substantial and lasting in its nature. If, for instance, a grant of clothing is likely to save the family from continuous dependence on the parish, the grant may be fairly held to be of permanent use.

4. It is necessary therefore to treat each such case on its own merits, and in the first place to consider, supposing the need of assistance to be proved, whether it is a case for the Poor-law or for charity.

5. As education is now compulsory, the question is not whether the children shall be enabled to obtain education, but whether there is anything in the circumstances of the case, and especially in the mother's character and the nature of the home, to make it desirable that she should obtain assistance from charity rather than from the Guardians.

6. The Council would not wish to encourage the notion that a recipient of charity is in a very different position as regards independence from a recipient of parish relief, nor would they disregard the danger of charitable relief preparing the way for an application to the parish; but they are, nevertheless, of opinion that in this, as in other cases, provided that the mother is of good character, hard-working and thrifty, and has not hitherto—or any rate has not recently—received parish relief, charity may properly make an effort to save her from having to apply for this.

7. This is in accordance with the ordinary practice of the Society (see Manual, page 10), and is the more desirable in the case of children needing clothes, as, speaking generally, it is not the practice of Boards of Guardians to give clothes, still less a sum of money to purchase them; and relief, if given would probably take the form either of admission to the workhouse or of a weekly allowance.

8. In saying this the Council refer to widows. They are aware that Boards of Guardians are generally very unwilling to give any assistance outside the workhouses to deserted wives, and it is obviously desirable that Committees should be most careful not to lend themselves to any collusion between women professing to be deserted and their husbands, and should not systematically pursue a policy different from that which experience has led the best Boards of Guardians to adopt.

9. The Council desire me to call your attention to some other points which appear to them important.

It is to be observed that relief to these cases is relief in aid of wages, and it must be remembered that such relief has a tendency to keep down wages, and to retain labour where it is not wanted.

The latter consideration makes it essential that Committees should carefully consider, not only whether the mothers are hardworking, but whether they are well-advised in remaining where they are, and at their present work; if not they should on no account be assisted.

10. The tendency of relief to keep down wages is in proportion to the certainty with which the relief can be counted on, and the notoriety that attends it.

This affords an additional reason for District Committees adhering strictly to the ordinary rule of the Society, and only giving relief themselves in the last resort—when it cannot be obtained from private individuals or local charities.

It is exceedingly undesirable that it should come to be thought that a class of women who have already to accept wages which are hardly sufficient to keep them, can easily obtain assistance from the Committees of the Society; but the same degree of expectation will not be called out if the Committees for the most part obtain assistance for them from private individuals or from small local relief agencies.



11. The Council desire to suggest, in conclusion, that it is most important that the Society should steadily aim, especially in prosperous times, at encouraging provident habits among those whom it assists. Pains should therefore be taken to ascertain whether the applicant or her husband have made any considerable attempt to save money at any former time; and those to whom assistance is given should be urged to endeavour to put aside some small amount weekly in a penny bank or clothing club, so as to save themselves from having to make a similar application again.

A letter was read from General Bainbrigge, forwarding a synopsis of the work of the District Committees, and calling attention to the long period allowed to elapse before some of the Committees brought out their Annual Reports.

The letter and enclosure were referred to the Sub-Committee on Visits to District Offices.

The Secretary stated that a few sets of Reports of District Committees had been bound with the Report of the Council, and were about to be sent out to the District Committees and the Affiliated Societies.

Also that a Memorial was about to be sent to the City Companies, and that he would be glad to receive the names of any members of City Companies to whom it would be well to send information about the Society.

Sir Charles Trevelyan presented copies of a pamphlet explaining the resolutions with regard to Institutions for Idiots, of which he had given notice.

It was ordered that copies should be sent to the District Committees.

The Rev. H. I. Cummins mentioned that a paper on the City Parochial Charities would be read and discussed at Sion College to-morrow (Thursday), at 8 p.m.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported *inter alia* that during the two weeks ending May 15 the receipts had been £75 4s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £833 3s. 8d. and £76 13s. 3d. respectively.

Also that they were of opinion that while the Council should be prepared to give an opinion on any point of principle arising out of individual cases, there was great danger in drawing general conclusions from them, and treating them as typical cases; inasmuch as experience showed that such cases, when fully investigated, differed from one another in various details, all of which must be taken into consideration when applying the principles of the Society.

And that letters had been received from Leamington, Dublin, and Florence, with reference to the establishment of Charity Organisation or Mendicity Societies.

The Report was adopted. Special sanction was given for the issue of a circular to District Committees with reference to the proposed arrangement with the Children's Hospital.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

It was resolved, on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, to pay half the costs of a suit undertaken by a private individual against a so-called Fire Escape Brigade for obtaining money on false pretences.

Also to pay the costs of a prosecution by the Wandsworth Committee. (See *Reporter*, p. 56.)

Mr. Hensley explained that the Wandsworth Committee had taken up the prosecution at the request of other District Committees. The begging-letter writer, who was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour, lived in the Wandsworth District, but those whom he had endeavoured to impose on were resident in other districts.

The recommendation that a clerk be engaged at a salary not exceeding £100, in lieu of two clerks at lower salaries,

and that the Inquiry Officer's salary be raised from 30s. a week to 35s., were also adopted; it having been explained that these changes had been recommended by the Finance and Supervision Sub-committees.

A grant of £25 was made to the Mile End Old Town Committee towards a Permanent Loan Fund, on the usual conditions, viz.:—(1) That it be kept separate from the General Fund of the Committee, and be appropriated exclusively to fresh loans; (2) that any losses that it may sustain be made good out of the General Fund; (3) that the Committee will exert themselves to increase the Permanent Loan Fund thus established.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, May 22, 1875:—*Donations*: London Knot of Friendly Brothers of St. Patrick, £10 10s.; Rev. G. P. Irby, 5s.; G. Crawley, Esq., £1; *Annual*: The Duke of Westminster, £50; Alsager Hay-Hill, Esq. (1874 and 1875), £2 2s.; Lieut.-Col. Gillum, £1 1s.; W. B. James, Esq., £1 1s.; *District Committee Aid Fund*: Mrs. Collie, £1.

The following business stands for Monday, May 31:—

Sir Alexander Gordon to move that Mr. U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., be asked to accept the office of Vice-President of the Society.

To consider proposed reply to a letter from the St. George's Committee. (See p. 77.)

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

Mr. Edgecombe to move: 'That where an inquiry can be conveniently and safely carried on by post, it is recommended that the correspondence be conducted by the Committee of the District in which the applicant for assistance resides.'

MR. PEEK'S OFFER.—At the meeting of the London School Board on the 12th inst. a letter was read from the Council of the Charity Organisation informing the Board that Mr. Francis Peek had offered to give £1,000 a year for three years to the Society on the condition that its District Committees would investigate and deal in accordance with their principles with all cases of distress referred to them by the Divisional Committees of the School Board. Such reference was already open to the Divisional Committees under the rules of the Society, apart from any special arrangement; but the generous offer of Mr. Peek seemed to give an opportunity for initiating a closer co-operation between the School Board and the Society, and the Council proposed to send papers explaining the arrangement for issue to the Divisional Committees, that action might be commenced under this plan. The Chairman, in moving that the letter should be referred to the Bylaws Committee, with power to enter into communication with the Society, expressed his pleasure (amid applause) that a member of the Board should have stepped forward to give this practical means of aiding the deserving poor, in addition to the aid he had given to the Board in other directions. Mr. Currie seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The next ordinary meeting of the Bylaws Committee is on the 3rd of June.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

PADDINGTON.—*Flowers for the Sick Poor*.—We take the following letter from the *Bayswater Chronicle*:—'Sir,—In your report of last Wednesday's proceedings at the Paddington Board of Guardians, reference is made to the flowers sent to the Workhouse Infirmary. It may interest your readers to know that the flowers come from the "Paddington Flower Mission." Some kind people have promised to send weekly supplies of cut flowers throughout the spring and summer. These flowers are received, unpacked, and distributed by several ladies, on Thursday mornings, to the Infirmary, St. Mary's Hospital, and a number of charitable institutions in the neighbourhood, as well as to many sick and suffering individuals in their own homes. The Paddington Charity Organisation Committee have kindly granted the use of a room in their premises, 3 Leinster Street, for this work. A lady who regularly visits the Infirmary has been good enough to make Thursday her day, in order that she may distribute the flowers to the inmates, who express themselves very grateful for the thought and consideration shown for them by persons who have never seen them. Most of the flowers are wild, and gathered by village school children; thus a new bond is formed between town and country, and between different classes of society. Many kindly feelings and sympathies are awakened in various directions, and much innocent pleasure afforded at a very small cost. Any contributions of flowers or money towards the expenses will be gratefully received by

'FLOWER MISSION.'

NEWINGTON.—This Committee has recently received a grant of £20 from the Magistrates of the Lambeth Police Court.



## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE TWO WEEKS ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment				
Kensington .....	8	11	10	29	3	2	3	8	6	1	3	10	47
Fulham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	5
Paddington .....	3	1	5	9	3	1	4	7	5	8	1	21	34
Chelsea .....	4	3	..	7	1	3	4	4	1	1	9	15	26
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division ..	1	3	4	8	2	3	5	5	1	1	7	9	38
Westminster do. ....	4	1	4	9	2	3	5	7	..	1	8	1	2
Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	4	6
St. Marylebone .....	3	..	4	7	9	8	17	5	1	..	6	12	36
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	1	..	..	3	3	..	1	3	2	6	10
South St. Pancras .....	4	6	6	16	5	4	9	..	1	1	2	2	27
Islington .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	6	2	..	8	12	22
Strand .....	..	2	2	1	1	..	2	3	3	1	7	11	14
Holborn .....	2	4	6	..	1	1	2	2	..	1	3	11	15
City .....	2	1	1	4	2	2	4	1	1	1	3	11	11
Shoreditch .....	2	6	8	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	2	11	18
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	5
Whitechapel .....	1	3	4	..	2	..	2	..	..	3	3	9	4
St. George's-in-the-East ..	2	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4	2
Stepney .....	2	1	3	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	2	7	4
Mile End Old Town .....	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	2	..	1	3	6	1
Poplar .....	3	5	6	14	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	17	7
St. Saviour's .....	2	2	4	8	3	..	3	2	3	6	11	22	5
Newington .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	5	4
St. Olave's .....	1	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	7	3
Lambeth:—													
North .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	4	10	3
South .....	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	2	1	..	3	5	6
Wandsworth & Putney ..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	3	6	6
Battersea .....	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	4	8	1
Clapham .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	3	3
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	..	4	4	..	2	..	2	4	..	..	4	11	1
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1
Greenwich .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	9	1
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	..
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	3	5
Eitham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Sydenham .....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	..
Total .....	47	38	82	167	8	45	33	86	75	33	19	41	168
	421	189	187	124									

ERRATUM.—In the Greenwich return for the week ending May 8, in the last *Reporter*, for loans '1,' read loans '4.'

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-second meeting on the 12th inst., at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, Dr. Hawksley, Miss Erskine, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, F. Fuller, Alsager Hay Hill, W. Harris, E. C. Johnson, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee took Head II. c into consideration:—"What more can be done through existing agencies by co-operation amongst the agencies?"

It was resolved, on Mr. Wilkinson's motion:—

"That great advantages would arise from the co-operation of all agencies for promoting the welfare of the blind, both in the metropolis and throughout the country."

## REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Report of the Bristol and Clifton Charity Organisation Society, 1874.

Report of the Leeds Social Improvement Society, 1874.

Report of the Shrewsbury Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity, 1874-5.

Fiftieth Annual Report of the Hampshire Friendly Society, 1874.

Preliminary Programme of the Conference of Managers of Reformatory and Industrial Institutions to be held in Edinburgh, May 26 to June 1, 1875.

EARLY DISPENSARIES.—*Fraser's Magazine* for May contains an interesting article on Dispensaries for the Poor, which were established by the College of Physicians in the latter part of the seventeenth century, but came to an end about 1625. The writer desires to see closer relations established between the dispensaries of our own day and the hospitals.

## ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN GENEVA.\*

In former numbers of the *Reporter* some account was given of the 'Bureau de Bienfaisance' of Geneva, and of other matters relating to charitable relief and providence in that town. From papers recently received from the Director of the Bureau it is evident that the evils resulting from hasty, indiscriminate, and ill-advised charity are—making due allowance for the wide differences that must necessarily exist between two such towns as Geneva and London—as prominent in the former town as in the latter. In their eighth Annual Report (for 1874) the Managing Committee of the Bureau speak, even more forcibly than before, of the dangers of ordinary charitable relief, and, what is more striking still, of the difficulty the Committee feel in administering their own funds so as to reduce, instead of to increase, pauperism and distress. It appears, indeed, that the Committee are met by exactly the same embarrassments that are so vividly forced upon the notice of many of the District Committees of the Charity Organisation Society. The Report says:—

We have been more burdened this year than during the preceding one; it is to be feared, if matters go on as they have done, that our society will cease to be an office for inquiry and for the suppression of mendicity, and will become a new relief-fund upon which the poor will consider they have a claim. To what is this to be attributed? Is distress on the increase in our town? Such appears to be the case. Our population increases, year by year, in a certain proportion, but the number of indigent families in a larger proportion, and the numbers of cases of chronic poverty and of professional mendicants do not diminish, or only diminish slightly.

The Committee account for these discouraging facts by the evils of almsgiving in the streets or at their doors by persons appealed to, and by a dearth of employment, which seems, in consequence of certain exceptional causes, to have been severely felt in Geneva of late. In another paragraph, however, the Committee write as follows:—

The poor who present themselves day by day at the wicket receive immediate assistance in wood, coke, bread, soup, lodging, and clothing; our members must not be led astray by beggars who refuse the tickets on the pretext that the Bureau gives no assistance, for it is very rarely that we refuse all help. This summer we have been compelled, in order to prevent abuses, to give nothing to the circulating troupe of wayfarers who during the fine weather ought to be able to do without assistance.

Unless the cases referred to in the earlier part of the above paragraph have been thoroughly investigated by and are well known to the Bureau, it would seem that the relief given would scarcely be of a nature or amount to produce any permanently beneficial effect on the prevailing distress. It is to be presumed, however, that a local committee, acting on such principles as those advocated by the Bureau, must possess such knowledge, both local and general, as would enable them to steer a safe middle course between the two extremes of pauperising by relief in kind, and by a too strict refusal of relief, throwing upon the indiscreet charity of the public cases which appear to be in immediate distress.

Later on the Report dwells upon the evils of the system of relief by tickets; it points out that persons or charities who give these tickets 'believe that they have secured, for a sick person or for a child, a basin of soup or a piece of meat, but their intention is often thwarted. We have seen women come to the "Société Alimentaire" and ask for wine in exchange for their tickets; and a butcher has confessed to us that, in order to avoid disputes with the poor, he has been compelled to give money for the tickets, even less in amount than their real value.'

It is lamentable to read that the Bureau has found, even in that branch of its useful and instructive undertaking which is restricted to visits to the houses of the poor, difficulties which they feel to be of a most discouraging character. The Report of the 'Comité du Patronage' states that 'there are few poor families not already demoralised by almsgiving;' and adds, in speaking of the difficulties in raising their moral and social position, that 'the visits of those who can be considered in the light of almoners are, it may be stated, most positively injurious, rather than beneficial.' After pointing out how visits to the poor may be made productive of real benefit, this Report proceeds to dwell upon the difficulties that attend visits to families the head of which is drunken or otherwise of bad character; and, after laying stress on the way in which relief to such families must thus put more means at the disposal of their dissipated or extravagant members, it indicates the tendency which such visits may have, even when unaccompanied by relief, to widen the breach between husband and wife, and to weaken the reclaiming power of the latter. The Report on this branch of the work concludes by stating that the visits, 'though confined to the members who were most devoted to the subject, and who were best calculated to bring religious influences to bear, have too often induced a wider separation between those whom it was hoped to reunite, and have even led to the desertion of wives and children and husbands of such families.' It is, however, encouraging to find that the Bureau seems to have dwelt upon these obstacles so fully, rather with a view to place them boldly before the less enlightened portion of the public, than because they feel in any way discouraged in their arduous undertaking.

\* Bureau Central de Bienfaisance. VIIIe Rapport Annuel. Genève, 1875.

Bulletin du Bureau Central de Bienfaisance. 10 rue du Stand, Genève, Numéros 1 et 2, IIe Année.

Annuaire Philanthropique Genevois, 1875. Publié sous les auspices de la Société d'Utilité Publique. Genève, Librairie Desvovis, rue du Rhône, 13.

† See *Reporter*, July 22, 1874, and January 13, 1875.



Their Report contains, amongst other matters too numerous for further allusion, a quotation from a letter addressed to the Manager by Mr. Ribton-Turner, on the subject of a possible International Conference on Charitable Relief, and states that, with the view of making the principles of the Society more widely known, the Bureau has sent copies of its *Bulletin Mensuel* to societies in many foreign countries.

The numbers of this paper recently received contain notices of various kinds of charitable work which are growing up in Geneva. The 'Ladies' Dispensary,' which appears to be an association for the temporary relief of the sick poor, and which, out of a total expenditure of £716, expends £596 in meat and other kinds of food; the Night Refuge, which has increased its capital to £1,000, in 250 shares of £4 each; and the Swiss Benevolent Societies of London, St. Petersburg, and Alexandria, are all referred to in its pages, which contain also articles and correspondence on subjects connected with charity and providence. One of the articles dwells most forcibly upon the evils of relief which only temporarily assuages suffering, and points to a striking contrast between this mode of attempting to relieve what might be called the 'social disease, distress,' and that adopted by a wise physician in endeavouring to cure, by careful diagnosis and treatment, the physical ailments of a sick person.

Like London, Geneva is now supplied, through the laudable exertions of its 'Société d'Utilité Publique,' with a Guide to its charities, giving, in somewhat full detail particulars of no less than 211 institutions more or less of a charitable or philanthropic nature. An examination of the classified index appended to this very neat little hand-book shows that there are, in this district of 68,170\* inhabitants, no less than 58 institutions purely for charitable relief. In addition to these, three are of a general nature, 53 are for instruction and education, 18 for the promotion of labour, 12 deal with co-operation and domestic economy, and last, but happily not least, 67 are of a distinctly provident character. Religious, literary, and artistic associations are excluded from the Guide.—H. H. G.

\* In 1870.

**OUT-DOOR RELIEF.**—In the House of Commons, on the 21st inst., Sir J. M'Kenna gave notice that on the 15th of June he would move, as an amendment to Mr. Fawcett's motion:—'That it is inexpedient to fetter the reasonable discretion of the local authorities, or that of the Local Government Board, by a resolution of this House in reference to the administration of out-door relief, until some better system shall have been approved by the House as a substitute for the present practice.'

**HOW TO DEAL WITH IMPROVIDENCE.**—The Vice-Chairman of a Guardian Board writes to a contemporary, says the *Metropolitan*, on the subject of of drink. He says:—'As matters at present stand, the improvident or drunken workman has the certainty of relief in sickness and old age in his own home, accompanied usually by the luxuries of meat, beer, and spirits. Let him once be equally certain that these things will only be provided in the union-house, and he will think a good many times before he wastes in idleness or drink the excellent wages which any healthy and able-bodied person may now obtain. Some years' experience has convinced me that it is high time that restrictions were placed by law on out-relief. I would begin with prohibiting out-door medical relief to all persons between seven and seventy. And I would only relieve those aged persons out of the house who could prove that life-long infirmity had prevented their securing a deferred Government annuity.'

**STONE-YARD RELIEF.**—At the meeting of the Kensington Board of Guardians, on the 20th inst., the Board, after some discussion, adopted the following motion on this subject by Mr. Edgcombe:—'That it be an instruction to the Relief Committee to refrain, as a rule, from giving stone-yard relief in cases of periodical recurrence, the Board being of opinion that in such cases the house should be offered, as they arise generally from the improvidence of the men while in work, on account of the prospect of the stone-yard when the work ceases.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of May 1875 was 34,221, and 55,131 received outdoor relief, making a total of 89,352. This was a decrease of 799 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,576, 17,390, and 20,599 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 497. This was an increase of 69 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 136 on the corresponding day of last year.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 140.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 2, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

A few sets of the Annual Reports of the District Committees, for 1874, have been bound up with the Sixth Annual Report of the Council. Copies can be had by application to the Secretary, 15 Buckingham Street, price 2s. 6d., or post-free 3s. Those who wish for them are requested to give their orders at once.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Kensington Committee; Rev. H. Hayman, Fulham; J. R. Hollond, Esq., Paddington; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. J. Seton-Karr, Chelsea; Lord William Compton, Major Prendergast, Hon. R. C. Moreton, W. W. Moore, Esq., St. George's; H. Peto, Esq., Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's); Miss Octavia Hill, St. Marylebone; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Hampstead; Miss Collett, South St. Paneras; T. B. Spencer, Esq., Islington; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, St. Giles's and Bloomsbury; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Strand; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Shoreditch; Rev. J. D. McGachen, Bethnal Green; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, Whitechapel; A. G. Crowder, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., Stepney; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, Mile End Old Town; B. R. Balfour, Esq., St. Olave's; Douglas Brown, Esq., Q.C., Lambeth; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., Camberwell; A. Annesley, Esq., G. Parker, Esq., Lewisham; Alsager Hay-Hill, Esq., Vice-Chairman; Sir C. E. Trevelyan, Stephen Fuller, Esq., Additional Members; total, 32. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., Secretary.

A letter was read from St. George's, Hanover Square, stating that Mr. W. W. Moore would act as an Honorary Secretary during Major FitzRoy's absence.

A letter was read from St. George's East, stating that the Rev. Dr. Dendy had been elected to represent the Committee at the Council.

A letter was read from a lady at the head of a large institution in the Midland Counties, offering, after July 30, to take

two orphan children—a boy and a girl—free, on the recommendation of the Society; and others at 4s. weekly for girls and 5s. for boys. The children to have lost both parents and to be above ten.

## THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE AID FUND.

The Secretary called attention to the fact that if the Council adopted the recommendation of the Administrative Committee at their next meeting, as to a grant to Whitechapel, the District Committee Aid Fund would be exhausted. It was desirable that this should be made known to the friends of the Society at once, as several Committees would require grants during the summer and autumn.

Mr. J. R. Hollond called attention to the inconvenience of sending inquiries about applicants open by the halfpenny post.

Mr. A. H. Hill asked whether anything was known of the St. Andrew's Provident Dispensary, St. Giles's.

Mr. Seton Karr asked whether anything was known of a Mr. Yates, who had been issuing appeals for Free Dinners at Marchmont Hall.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported *inter alia* that during the week ending May 22 the receipts had been £12. 16s. for the General Fund, and £1 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £720. 6s. and £52. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That they had prepared a form of statement of accounts to be filled up by District Committees applying for grants.

And that it had been proposed to them to establish a Committee at Bow for the northern half of the Poplar Union: a course which they thought desirable if sufficient local support could be obtained.

## NOTICE OF MOTION.

Sir Charles Trevelyan gave notice that he would move the resolutions with reference to institutions for Idiots of which he had given notice (See Reporter for April 28), on June the 21st. He proposed, with the permission of the Council, to ask about twelve gentlemen who were specially interested in the subject, to attend that day as visitors.

## VICE-PRESIDENT.

It was resolved on Sir Alexander Gordon's motion, seconded by Sir Charles Trevelyan, to ask Mr. U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., to accept a Vice-Presidentship of the Society.

It was thought that the present time, when the Home Secretary's Dwellings Bill had passed through the House of Commons, afforded a suitable opportunity for recognising Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth's services as a member of the Dwellings Committee, and subsequently in calling the attention of the House of Commons to the recommendations of the Committee.



## TEMPORARY RELIEF AND PERMANENT BENEFIT.

The Council then proceeded to consider the draft reply to the letter read last week from the St. George's Committee, requesting a further opinion as to the mode in which District Committees should deal with applications from widows and deserted wives with children for clothing, to enable their children to attend school.

General Cavenagh pointed out that it was not expedient that a Committee should ask the Council for an opinion on an individual case; there would always be attendant circumstances as to which the Council would not have full information. The Council might very properly be asked for an opinion on a question of principle.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson moved the adoption of the draft reply printed in the last *Reporter*. The pith of the reply was contained in paragraphs 2 and 3. These showed that there was nothing in the rules of the Society to prevent the cases in question being dealt with on their merits.

Sir Charles Trevelyan seconded the motion. The draft before them showed the usefulness of the long discussion they had had on the St. George's case, but he agreed with the resolution brought up last week as to the danger of drawing general conclusions from so-called 'typical cases,' and overlooking the differences among them.

Mr. A. H. Hill agreed that the draft reply was excellent; he spoke as the mover of the resolution which had failed to satisfy the St. George's Committee.

Lord William Compton did not think the reply so satisfactory. The point of it seemed to him to be that each case was to be treated on its merits. But a new class of cases was being brought up, and the question was whether they would get any permanent benefit from the clothes and boots for which they applied. How were they to be prevented finding their way to the pawn-shop? He would move as an amendment on the proposed reply:—

That in all cases in which the family may be proved to be perfectly deserving, the Council is of opinion it would be in accordance with the principles of the Society to furnish clothing to children for the purpose of enabling them to attend school.

Mr. Hyde seconded the amendment.

Mr. Hollond feared that passing the amendment would have a tendency to prevent Committees weighing the merits of each case. The Council might lay down the considerations by which Committees should be guided, but the Committees must apply them.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen hoped the amendment would not be carried. If a notion once got abroad that clothes and boots could be had for the asking, the Society would be overwhelmed with applications; boots would be taken from children who had them, that new ones might be got. Such news soon spread, and a sum like that which Mr. Peek proposed to give would seem endless to the poor.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson thought that there were many deserving poor persons who might want assistance once in a way, but would not have to come a second time.

The amendment having been withdrawn, the draft reply was adopted, as printed in our last issue.

The Council then adjourned.

The following business stands for Monday, June 7:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee.

That a grant of £35 for general expenses, and of £20 as an addition to the Permanent Loan Fund, be made to the Whitechapel Committee.

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

Mr. Edgcombe to move: 'That where an inquiry can be conveniently and safely carried on by post, it is recommended that the correspondence be conducted by the Committee of the District in which the applicant resides.'

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospital &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	4	4	5	13	2	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	6	21	6	3	5
Fulham .....	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	4	7	1	3	6
Paddington .....	1	..	4	5	..	2	..	2	5	3	6	2	16	23	5	1	..
Chelsea .....	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	3	1	..	4	..	5	9	8	..	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	13	7	4	1
Westminster do. ....	2	1	4	7	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1		2	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	1	5	1	1	6
St. Marylebone .....	1	1	3	5	..	7	6	12	2	1	..	1	4	21	4	11	..
Hampstead .....	3	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	7	..	13	3
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	3	..	..	..
South St. Pancras ....	5	5	5	15	1	..	2	3	..	..	2	2	20	5	4	..	..
Islington .....	..	1	6	7	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	10	..	3	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	5	..	..
Strand .....	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	2	3	2	5	..	..
Holborn .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	4	15	1	..
City .....	..	2	2	2	2	2	..	4	2	..	..	2	8	6	5	..	..
Shoreditch .....	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	2	1	..	2	3	5	1	3	..	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	3	5	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	6	11	..	7	1	..
Whitechapel .....	2	..	2	4	1	2	1	4	..	..	2	2	10	1	5	..	..
St. George's-in-the-East .....	1	..	2	3	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	6	1	2	..	..
Stepney .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	3	..	..
Mile End Old Town .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
Poplar .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	5	..	..
St. Saviour's .....	3	1	..	4	..	2	2	..	..	..	5	5	11	1	3	..	..
Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	5	1	..	..	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	3	3	..	..	3	6	1	4	..	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	5	..
Battersea .....	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	6	2	..	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	1	1	..	..	1	7	2	1	..	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Greenwich .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	3	4	..	..	2	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Woolwich .....	1	..	1	..	..	2	2	1	2	..	3	3	6	4	..	..	..
Lewisham .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	4	2	..	12	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
Total .....	26	21	60	107	7	24	16	47	40	10	14	24	88	242	77	110	61

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

PADDINGTON.—*Impostor*.—This Committee states that a man giving the name of Thomas Thompson is going round the district using the name of the Rev. T. J. Rowsell as a reference, though he is unknown to him, and professing to need a letter for the Dudley Stuart Home, and to require assistance until he gets admittance. Mr. Rowsell has warned his congregation, and wrote to the *Times* on the 3rd inst. regarding the matter. This impostor is described as 25 years of age, pleasant looking, well spoken, darkish eyes, quiet demeanour. He has already imposed upon several people.

## REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Pastoral Address and Report of St. Jude's, Whitechapel. By the Rev. S. A. Barnett, vicar. 1874-5.

Classified List of the Charitable and Benevolent Institutions of Hastings and St. Leonards. 1875, 6d.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of May 1875 was 33,783, and 54,291 received out-door relief, making a total of 88,074. This was a decrease of 1,278 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,114, 17,629, and 20,958 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 403. This was a decrease of 94 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 226 on the corresponding day of last year.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-third meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Sir Charles Trevelyan (in the chair), Rev. T. E. S. Catterns, Messrs. Shadwell, G. M. Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary,

The Committee continued consideration of Head II. c:—‘What more can be done through existing agencies by co-operation amongst the agencies.

It was resolved, on Mr. Wilkinson's motion:—

‘That such co-operation among the agencies and throughout the country would be best carried out by their sending representatives to a permanent council, such council not to interfere with the autonomy of the different societies.’

## ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN COPENHAGEN.

The Organising Secretary has recently received the following information from the Secretary of the Copenhagen Charitable Relief Association—a Society the constitution of which, as will be seen, somewhat resembles that of the Charity Organisation Society. The Chairman of the Association, during a visit paid by him to London in 1872, took the opportunity of making himself intimately acquainted with the working of the Charity Organisation Society:—

‘DEAR SIR,—I have the honour of thanking you in the name of our Society for sending us a constant supply of the papers and other publications, edited by the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity; and especially for the ‘List of Charity Organisation and other Societies,’ lately forwarded to our President, V. Oldenburg, Esq., Vice-Director of Police. We should have presented you with our thanks earlier, if we had not desired to take this opportunity of communicating additional information concerning our Society, which might possibly be of some interest, and which has only now been completed.

‘As has probably been already stated by our President, the different Societies for Charitable Relief, which had hitherto acted independently in this metropolis, formed, on the 1st November of last year, one great Union, the ‘Kjöbenhavns Understøttelsesforening,’ the operations of which extend over the whole city. As will appear from the rules, which I have the honour of forwarding, the object of the Society is the improvement of the condition of the deserving poor, particularly of such as might be helped in their endeavour to support themselves by their own exertions. The relief is given without regard to position, creed, or age. No one that receives support from the Public Pauper Establishment obtains help from our Society.

‘The Society has but one fund, into which all the receipts, consisting of voluntary contributions are paid; but the area of operations is divided into fourteen districts, which are sub-divided into circles, each having its Chairman and its Investigators. Each Investigator has his number of poor, whom it is his duty to inspect and guide. The cases of relief are generally disposed of in the districts; but are laid before the Council when the relief amounts to, or exceeds 200 kroner (£11).

‘As will appear from the enclosed list, the Society has 400 acting members, and is, upon the whole, making good progress, though it may yet have difficulties to overcome. It has already done much good, and we hope that in time we may succeed so far that no deserving applicant shall go to ruin for want of help from the Society.

‘Besides the rules of the Society and the list of members, I take the liberty of enclosing an appeal for support for the Society, which has been recently distributed. Our yearly Report, and whatever else we may publish, shall likewise be forwarded in future. It is unnecessary to add that we shall always be willing to give any information and assistance that may be asked for, and that we shall do everything in our power to keep up the friendly relations with your Society which we value so highly.

‘I am, &c., (Signed) CH. SHAW (Barrister), Secretary.’

The principles of the Association may be further understood from the following account abstracted from the papers sent to the Organising Secretary:—

The Charitable Association of Copenhagen is divided into 14 districts; each district has several sub-divisions, some 3, some 5, some 6; one district has 9, one 11, and one 17 sub-divisions.

Each district has a similar number of representatives, except when two offices, *e.g.*, that of Treasurer and Secretary, or Vice-president and Treasurer, are entrusted to the same individual, and each sub-division has a Manager. Besides these, with each district are connected bands of men and women, called Investigators, varying in number from 10 to 60. Medical men, Deaconesses, &c., are attached to some of the districts. Altogether, about 400 persons are engaged in the work of the Association.

It is not the intention of the Association to prevent the public from the direct exercise of benevolence, or to step in between the giver and the poor whom he knows; but in cases where the donor has no personal knowledge of the applicant, the Association offers its services.

The object of the Association is to bring order and system into the whole work of benevolence. It wishes so to arrange it that no indigent person, who can or will work, shall from want of the necessary means, be compelled to sink into utter destitution. It is not intended to grant regular assistance (pensions, &c.), but to help such as are willing to help themselves.

To every donor of not less than 25 kroner (29s. 2d.), the Society is willing to supply a plate, which may be fixed near the entrance, indicating that the owner or tenant is a contributor to the Association. This may be useful to shopkeepers, who are frequently overrun by applicants. The latter, seeing the plate, will know that instead of being directly assisted they will be referred to the Association.

REMEDIAL TREATMENT.—We take the following extract from an article in the *East London Observer* on the Report of the Whitechapel and St. George's East Committee:—‘BENEVOLENCE AND BENEFICENCE.—We apprehend that no one would be altogether satisfied, in the event of the serious illness of a friend, by the assurance that the doctor in attendance was the most kind-hearted of men, his method of treatment agreeable to the whims and feelings of the patient, and his charge strictly moderate. We should want to know more. Had he been a diligent student? Had he experience in detecting causes and applying remedies? Kindness and sympathy we all recognise as invaluable qualifications in a member of the medical profession; but none but children could believe in the “kindness” of a surgeon who should dispense with the use, when necessary, of the probe and the knife, and whose feelings would not permit him to administer valuable drugs because they happened to be unpalatable. Distress among the poor, which it is the object of the philanthropist to remove, may very fitly be compared to physical disease—the philanthropist to the doctor. He who would effectually benefit his poorer brethren must not content himself with merely palliating symptoms—a method which too frequently only aggravates the disorder—but must study the causes of the evil, and vigorously attack them, sometimes with severe measures, but always with a loving spirit. Such philanthropists, however, not unfrequently, have a hard time of it. The kindness of refusing “relief” in certain instances is called in question, not only by the would-be recipients—the whining beggar, the idle, and improvident—but unhappily by certain kindly-disposed but unreflecting persons, who regard with indifference, and sometimes even with dislike, the endeavour to combine philanthropy with intelligence, and to substitute an enlightened system of charitable action for the benevolent but not beneficent almsgiving which has too generally been supposed to constitute “charity.” There have been times and places, and there are still, in which the business of charity assumes comparatively simple aspects. It is tolerably easy in country villages to know the circumstances and characters of the poor, and the comparative fewness of agencies for their relief still further simplifies matters. But the case is altogether different in London, and, while we acknowledge the obligation to feed the hungry and clothe the naked to be binding upon us as ever, yet when we find by painful experience that our efforts in this direction have only had the effect of enriching the publican or the pawnbroker, we must feel sure that an unthinking literal fulfilment of the obligation cannot be right. The difficulties which beset the philanthropist in rightly dealing with an application for relief, from a family in the East End, for instance, are very great indeed. The people have, perhaps, only recently come into the neighbourhood. It is important to know their character, their earnings, and other resources; whether they have friends who do or ought to help them, and whether they have been or are still in receipt of assistance from other charitable sources. That enormous sums of money are annually expended in London in the attempt to ameliorate the condition of the poor is well known to any who have given any attention to the subject, and what is equally certain is that a very large number of persons are actively engaged in visiting and dispensing the relief. But it is lamentable to perceive how much of the funds and how much of the labour are fruitlessly and even mischievously expended, for want of some systematic co-operation amongst the labourers. No one knows what is being done by others. It is next to impossible to be sure whether enough or too much is being bestowed in any given case of distress. The visitor from the chapel is moved to compassion by the spectacle of a family in squalor and apparent destitution, and forthwith gives “relief.” The visitor from the church could have informed him that his kindly-meant act was worse than useless, for he had known the people for years, and knew them to be incorrigibly drunken. There is another case in the next street, however, needing more help than either visitor feels able to bestow. If there were some means by which their resources could be combined, a sufficient weekly allowance might be made up to keep some poor old soul out of the workhouse, or, if only a few pounds could be raised, the struggling widow could be helped to procure a mangle or sewing-machine, or by some other means be saved from pauperism. There is no reason why such systematic co-operation and interchange of information should not exist. And we are glad to know that considerable progress towards so desirable a state of things is being made in the East End, as in other parts of the metropolis.’



**THE COMMON SENSE OF MIGRATION.**—Mr. Allerdale Grainger writes to *The Labour News* as follows:—‘You may be acquainted with the different causes that induce both men and women to come to London. Whilst these unfortunate people do not understand that the biggest cup can be full as well as the little, nothing will hinder this constant immigration. Arriving here, they soon discover that, without friends or the necessary local knowledge, work is obtained only with great difficulty; consequently many throw themselves on the charity of the State and of private individuals. The plea of “No work” is so easily made, and, for those whose pursuits are of a different nature, so difficult to refute, that the pauper soon learns to spend his time in soliciting relief, instead of searching for work where it might be obtained. If work is offered at a distance from London, it is almost invariably refused, the excuse given generally being “I shouldn’t like to leave London.” As labour is constantly required for undertakings which, owing to local advantages, must be carried on in country districts, this unhappy congestion of labour in London calls for immediate attention. Employers, having erected large cotton and other mills in the Northern districts of England, applied in London for the necessary labour. Widows with children over 10 years of age were preferred, but in order to obtain a better selection, all desirous of migrating had the opportunity of applying. Travelling expenses free, and money for sustenance until they could earn a sufficient supporting wage, was generously offered by the employers. Not a single Metropolitan Board of Guardians responded recently to the appeal, though, as may be seen from the published lists, numbers of women with children are receiving relief from the rates. As one only out of many illustrations, owing to the benevolence of a lady in St. Pancras, a carman lately in the infirmary from an accident was, with his family, removed from the workhouse. After explaining to him that he ought to experience no difficulty in finding employment in London, at from 20s. to 25s. a week, carmen being in fair demand, it was agreed that the family should be emigrated in a fortnight or three weeks. He thought he would fill up the time by hop-picking, and in order to take himself and his family to Kent, he obtained 10s. (two weeks’ out-door relief) in advance from the relieving officer to pay his expenses. The same afternoon, instead of going to the hop-fields, he and his wife were found penniless and helplessly drunk outside a public-house. In the depressed districts of the country, the guardians did not wish to raise the local price of labour by encouraging a large migration to the mills. Another point which I wish to bring to your notice in connection with this matter, is the tendency of out-door relief, when the recipient is earning something, to detract from the value of such individual’s labour. Not only does such relief mean a supplemented wage, but it acts as a deterrent to industrious habits, and forces others who have not succeeded in obtaining it to adopt a course of life to make up for the smallness of the damaged wage. It acts as a deterrent to industrious habits, because the individual loses the relief if thought capable of earning a sufficiency, and it induces the recipient to take employment in callings much overcrowded, thereby encouraging a false state of the market. If people were forced to take what they could get, instead of being assisted by the ratepayers to wait for what they want, and are not fitted for, the labour market would more easily adjust itself. In all callings there is a damaged fringe, whose work is inefficiently performed; these shift from one employment to another, as the requirements of the market demand; more particularly the sudden street scavenger, newspaper seller, the cinder sifter, the fruit picker, the hop picker, the coal labourer, the painter’s labourer, the light porter, and all those whose services are required for brief periods, and vary according to the season and weather. I would submit that a decrease in out-door relief, even to the aged, who can still perform services which have a market value, would remove an impediment to the circulation of labour; for as Mahomet found it necessary to go to the mountain, so is it necessary that the workers should go where work is to be had, instead of sacrificing their independence by sitting in idleness because the work does not come to them. At present there is a large demand, at prices sufficient to support life, for that class of labour which receives relief from the poor-rates.’

**A NEW SORT OF MARTYR.**—A fellow was parading Aldersgate Street on a recent Saturday, says the *City Press*, with a label hung from his neck: ‘Imprisoned by the School Board, being unable to pay the fine. I came out on Friday. One of my children earning 4s. a week has been taken away. Please help me by buying a book.’ The man’s stock in the book trade consisted of one penny number of some publication. It was not a very encouraging circumstance to see numbers of poor people handing him their coppers.

**OUT-DOOR RELIEF.**—At a meeting of the Northamptonshire Chamber of Agriculture, held on Thursday at Weedon, Mr. G. Scriven in the chair, several speeches were made condemning the existing system of out-door relief to paupers. The Rev. W. Bury showed that Northampton stood very high in comparison with other districts in the Poor-law returns, and stated his opinion that the system adopted by different Boards of Guardians in the county was very pernicious. He moved ‘That this Chamber, believing that out-door relief exerts a demoralising influence throughout the

country, and has a tendency to encourage improvidence and to increase pauperism, desires to see the Legislature take steps for its restriction, and ultimate abolition.’ The motion received the unanimous support of the meeting. It was stated that the subject would be fully debated at the meeting of the Central Chamber this week.—*Metropolitan*.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 141.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 9, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

District Committees about to apply for grants are requested to apply to the Secretary of the Council for a form of financial statement.

District Committees ordering Manuals or General Ticket Sheets are requested to pass their orders through the hands of the Secretary of the Council, that he may furnish corrections down to date.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Alsager Hay-Hill, Esq. (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Holland, Esq., *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Hon. R. C. Moreton, W. W. Moore, Esq., *St. George's*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. Hay-Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Lord Montecagle, *Mile End Old Town*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; Sir Chas. Trevelyan, George Blount, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 32. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*.

The Secretary reported that Mr. B. R. Balfour had resigned the Hon. Secretaryship of the St. Olave's, Southwark, Committee in consequence of going abroad; Mr. C. E. Machen had undertaken to act as Hon. Secretary for a short time, but the Committee was in want of a permanent Hon. Secretary.

That he had received applications from Newington and other Committees for Letters for Convalescent Homes, but had been unable to supply them, the Council not having any in stock.

Also that the Committee of the Children's Hospital had agreed not to commence sending cases till the 21st inst., that the District Committees might have time to get stamping presses.

### MR. PEEK'S GIFT.

A letter was read from the Clerk to the School Board, stating that the Bye-laws Committee had addressed a letter to the Superintendents of Visitors, directing them to furnish themselves with Investigation Tickets for parents who were in need of them, and might wish to have them, such tickets to be signed by one of the Divisional Members and the Local Superintendent of Visitors.

The letter was referred to the Administrative Committee.

### VAGRANTS.

Mr. Fuller asked whether District Committees in returning cases under the head of 'Vagrants dealt with' included vagrants who had been refused bread as well as those to whom bread had been given.

The Secretary said that the instructions for making up the weekly returns directed that the heading should include all wayfarers who applied at the offices. He had no reason to doubt that the Committees carried this out.

He mentioned that Sir Alexander Gordon had recently prepared a tabular statement from the weekly returns, showing the number of vagrants dealt with at the different offices.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported *inter alia* that during the week ending May 29 the receipts had been £8. 8s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £717. 15s. 4d. and £52. 11s. 3d. respectively.

It appeared from the Report that the District Committee Aid Fund was nearly exhausted, and that the Committee was about to ask permission from the richer Committees to send an appeal to individuals in their Districts under the arrangement agreed on in June 1873.

### GRANT.

A grant of £35 was made, on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, to the Whitechapel Committee for general purposes, and a grant of £20 as an addition to their Permanent Loan Fund.

### INQUIRIES THROUGH DISTRICT OFFICES.

The adjourned discussion on Employment having been postponed, in accordance with a request from Mr. Willis-Bund, Mr. Edgcombe moved:—

That where an inquiry can be conveniently and safely carried on by post, it is recommended that the correspondence be conducted by the Committee of the District in which the applicant resides.

He explained that when inquiries about a poor person residing in any District had to be made in another District, it was usual for the Committee of District A to employ the good offices of the Committee of District B. When a personal interview was



required this was no doubt the right course; but if the inquiry could be made through the post it seemed to him unnecessary to trouble Committee B. There were many such inquiries. His own Committee had had 110 in the last six months, and the weekly returns showed that nearly all the Committees had a good many. The present practice involved some loss of time, and, after all, the inquiry was not so well conducted. A Committee fully acquainted with all the particulars of an application could direct the attention of an old employer, or anyone else from whom they desired information, to the salient points of the case. A Committee which was only acting as an agent could not do this.

Mr. Fuller reminded the Council that the City Committee had had no fewer than 900 such inquiries to make in the course of last year.

Mr. Spencer mentioned a case in which the Agent of Committee B had obtained material information which a letter from Committee A had failed to elicit.

Mr. Maurice thought that Mr. Edgcombe's motion would benefit cases which required delicate handling.

Mr. J. R. Hollond thought that the resolution would not apply to many cases. Personal inquiries were much most effectual. In the case of migratory people the resolution would lead to their referees receiving inquiries from one District Committee after another. This would annoy them. He thought the resolution unnecessary. The Committees should judge how to act in each case.

The Secretary suggested that in some cases it might be well that the Committee desiring information should write a full letter of inquiry, and should then pass it through the hands of the Committee in whose District the person written to resided. This would meet several objections.

Mr. Corkran deprecated minute legislation. The matter should be left to the common sense of the District Committees.

The Secretary said, in reply to a question, that there was no written rule on the subject; the present practice had grown up gradually.

The resolution was put, and lost by 9 to 10.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the two weeks ending Saturday, June 5, 1875:—*Donations*: The Lord Lyttelton £2; A. P. Whately, Esq., £5. 5s.; *Annual*: W. Bousfield, Esq., £1. 1s.; Rev. H. F. Mallet, £1. 1s.; F. C. Mills, Esq., £2; The Duke of Northumberland, £12. 10s.; H. Peto, Esq., £1; The Salters' Company, £2. 2s.; *District Committee Aid Fund*: The Duke of Northumberland, £12. 10s.

The following business stands for Monday, June 14:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:

1 and 2. That two prosecutions should be instituted.

3. That a grant of £70 should be made to the Fulham Committee.

Mr. Willis-Bund to resume the adjourned discussion on the relations of the Society and its District Committees to the question of providing help by employment. (See *Reporter* for April 21.)

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-fourth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Sir Charles Trevelyan, Messrs. D. Conolly, A. H. Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. M. Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee continued consideration of Head II. c:—'What more can be done through existing agencies by co-operation amongst the agencies?'

It was resolved: 'That a central agency and sample dépôt for the disposal of goods manufactured by the Blind, and a central system of record and exchange of information regarding Blind applicants for relief, employment, and education, are among the results to be looked for from the institution of a permanent Council.'

It was also resolved, on Mr. Tait's motion:—

'That it is desirable to encourage the employment of the Blind among the sighted, and that inasmuch as the Blind work to most advantage when assisted by the labours of *seeing* workmen, the Committee are of opinion that material advantages would result from a judicious utilisation of hitherto undeveloped capabilities of the Blind, and the Committee commend this subject to the favourable consideration of all employers of manual labour.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total					
Kensington .....	2	5	2	9	..	..	3	3	4	1	..	5	17	10	2	7	
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	2	3	8	
Paddington .....	2	2	4	8	..	..	1	1	5	7	3	18	27	14	6	..	
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	..	2	1	3	6	5	1	..	
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division ..	1	3	4	1	..	2	3	1	..	2	3	..	21	10	3	1	
Westminster do. ....	2	..	2	..	8	..	8	1	..	..	1	..		1	1	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	3	4	
St. Marylebone .....	3	2	3	8	1	9	10	3	1	2	6	24	24	2	5	..	
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	1	1	..	2	5	1	1	..	..	
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	2	..	..	
South St. Pancras ....	3	2	6	11	..	1	1	..	1	1	13	13	2	3	4	..	
Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	4	..	1	..	..	
Strand .....	..	6	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	8	4	..	1	..	
Holborn .....	1	2	3	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	5	4	8	1	..	
City .....	1	3	1	5	1	..	1	3	..	..	3	9	14	14	..	..	
Shoreditch .....	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	5	..	2	..	..	
Bethnal Green .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	2	..	..	
Whitechapel .....	1	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	3	3	6	1	5	..	..	
St. George's-in-the-East ..	2	3	5	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	7	1	3	..	..	
Stepney .....	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	
Mile End Old Town ..	2	1	3	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	6	1	..	..	..	
Poplar .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	..	..	
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Newington .....	1	1	3	5	1	2	5	7	1	1	9	19	3	1	..	..	
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	3	..	1	..	..	
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	3	1	2	..	
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..		3	3	2	..
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	..	
Battersea .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	
Clapham .....	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	2	..	26	..	
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	5	..	1	..	..	
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	
Greenwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	3	3	..	..	11	..	
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	4	4	..	1	3	..	
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	5	5	4	..	12	..	
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	..	
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	
Total .....	17	27	43	87	6	28	15	49	36	16	8	25	85	221	100	76	101

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of May 1875 was 33,687, and 53,585 received out-door relief, making a total of 87,272. This was a decrease of 802 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,558, 17,260, and 21,606 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 571. This was an increase of 168 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of a decrease of 69 on the corresponding day of last year. The increase on the previous week is probably attributable to the near approach of the Epsom races.

#### CITY PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

An evening meeting was held at Sion College on Thursday, the 27th ult., to which the churchwardens, vestry clerks, and others interested in the administration of the parochial charities of the City of London, were specially invited. The chair was occupied by the President (the Rev. W. H. Milman, rector of St. Augustine and St. Faith), and the discussion was opened by the Rev. H. I. Cummins, rector of St. Alban, Wood Street. The speaker began by calling attention to the fact that while owing chiefly to the increase in the value of land the City had ceased almost entirely to be a place of residence, and considerable hardship had thereby been inflicted



upon the labouring classes, for whose residence no adequate provision had been made, the value of the charitable property of several of the parishes had enormously increased from the same cause; so that in many cases it averaged the proportion of £8 or £10 per head per annum to the resident population. After giving an interesting account of the origin and history of the several trusts, the speaker called attention to a scheme for the appropriation of the surplus funds adopted by Sion College in the year 1872, but upon which, from causes which he abstained from stating, no public action had yet been taken. The main features of this scheme were—first, that the funds should be dealt with in a comprehensive measure, and not frittered away in small schemes by individual parishes; and secondly, that they should be employed for purposes similar to those for which they were originally designed, but the sphere of their operation extended to the whole Metropolitan Police area. He claimed this scheme as an evidence that the clergy of the City were prepared to deal in no narrow or selfish spirit with funds of which many of them were *ex officio* trustees. Adverting to a suggestion in the scheme, that some portion of the funds might be employed in providing dwellings for the labouring classes, which might be regarded as an investment, he said that, for his own part, he was prepared to further and propose that the whole of the estates should be capitalised and re-invested in sites for such dwellings. Sir Sydney Waterlow, no mean authority, had stated that the sum required to provide adequate sites for the dwellings of the labouring and artisan population of the metropolis was £2,000,000, and proposed that this sum should be raised by a rate; but, estimating the charitable income of the parishes of the City of London at £80,000, which he believed was considerably within the mark, this would, if capitalised, produce a sum more than sufficient for the purpose, and though there might be some loss of income, the loss would be more than compensated by the public good effected. The speaker concluded with an earnest appeal to his hearers not to allow the present opportunity to pass without obtaining a just and sufficient settlement of the question. The subject could be adequately dealt with in a Government measure, and no time could be more propitious than the present when a Conservative Ministry were in office, who would be free from the suspicion of sanctioning violent or revolutionary measures. A discussion followed, in which part was taken by Mr. S. Morley, M.P., Mr. Andrew Johnson, late M.P. for South Essex, Rev. Dr. Irons, Rev. A. Povah, Rev. Harvey Brooks, and others, and a general desire being expressed that the opening address should be printed, Mr. Morley generously undertook to relieve the author from all pecuniary responsibility.—*Daily News*.

#### OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

The important question of out-door relief was very fully discussed at the meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture on the 1st inst., Lord Hampton presiding. The remarkable feature of the discussion, says the *Times*, was the general acknowledgment made that the principle now largely adopted in the metropolis, of a diminished out-door relief and adequate workhouse accommodation for the exercise of the test of poverty, should be generally adopted throughout the country, as the only means of relieving those ratepayers who had to pay for the pauperisation of the population in unions where out-door relief was given in aid of wages.

Mr. A. Startin, of the Warwickshire Chamber, brought the subject forward in the following motion:—

‘That in the opinion of this Council it is desirable to apply to the whole country the principle which has been found successful in diminishing pauperism in the metropolis, by distributing the cost of in-door relief over a larger area than a union, while leaving the burden of out-door relief to be borne as before; and that this object would be best achieved by granting a subvention from the Exchequer of 2s. per head per week for every pauper inmate of a union workhouse, the management of which was certified by a Government inspector to be up to the required standard of efficiency. This would turn the scale in favour of in-door relief; local taxation would be lightened, and economy promoted.’

In moving this he drew attention to the unions where large out-relief prevailed, and remarked upon their pauperised condition as evidenced in statistics, showing that the feature of not offering the ‘house’ to applicants led to greatly increased rates. On the evidence of the Secretary of the Local Government Board, in the late Administration, he showed that low wages and a pauperised district went together, and this, he said, would show the Labourers’ Union leaders that if they attempted to fight their battles by means of aid from the Poor Law they would fail. He referred to the union presided over by Sir Baldwin Leighton. He stated that in a district where right principles had not been carried out, the late Sir Baldwin Leighton, by insisting upon right principles, had lessened pauperism 50 per cent., and this was done by combating the false economical notions some guardians had that out-door relief was the cheapest mode of dealing with applicants for relief.

Mr. Caldecott seconded the motion, and said that when the inhabitants of Rugby numbered 1,800 the poor rates amounted to £1,800 a year, and it was only by the application of right principles of poor relief that the amount

was reduced, and it was in a short time brought down to £800, to the advantage of all classes.

The Rev. W. Bury, of Northamptonshire, said that at one time he was in favour of out-relief, but by looking into the matter he had become a sadder and a wiser man, for he had found that the two great evils all classes had to combat the effects of were indiscriminate charity and out-door relief, which were at the root of all the demoralisation in the country. What he had seen had rendered it impossible for him to doubt this, and he thought that something stronger than the motion before the Chamber was requisite. It was requisite, in order that the poor might be brought to feel the degradation of pauperism, and encouraged to act with thrift, that even medical extras should not be allowed for more than a month, and that rating laws should be so altered that the compound householder should be made to pay his rates himself. He moved as an amendment, ‘That it is expedient to revert more nearly to the principle laid down by the Poor Law Commission of 1833, with a view to the ultimate abolition of out-door relief.’

Mr. Jabez Turner seconded the amendment, and said that the evils which had arisen were the fault of a lax administration, and were not the fault of the law itself, for the Poor Law was intended for in-relief to be the rule and out-relief to be the exception.

After remarks by other members,

Mr. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., said that there was every reason to fear that the administration of poor relief was drifting back in country districts to the old system of relief in aid of wages, and he thought that tendency should be checked as much as possible, a stringent rule being drawn as to the relief given.

Mr. Layton Lowndes, of Shropshire, gave it as his experience that where there was good workhouse accommodation the rates were low, and that the great evil of the Poor Law system was that the guardians were not well instructed in the principles of the Poor Law, the rule being for some guardians to say of an applicant, ‘He will be the better off for 18d. a week,’ forgetting, in fact, that the 18d. not only pauperised the man but the whole of his neighbours. The speaker gave some remarkable facts relative to the Atcham Union and the Shrewsbury Union, showing that the former was a well-managed Union with a thrifty population, while the latter had been a badly-managed one, with a thriftless population and a heavy poor-rate; but that through joining the latter with the Atcham Union both were flourishing, being aided by the Charity Organisation Society of the town.

Mr. G. Turner, Mr. Treadwell, and other members spoke; and

Mr. Pell, M.P., in supporting the amendment, said he could not support a demand for a fresh charge upon the Exchequer; and, more, he did not think the effects Mr. Startin looked for would follow. He was afraid that among the guardians some took up an assumed position of religion and charity, and considered they were doing good when they voted other people’s money. He put it that these people should try and make the best of the endowed charity funds, and he questioned if these funds were distributed in a manner to check pauperism. As to regular or irregular charity, enormous amounts of which, he said, were distributed; these, he said, aided to keep up pauperism, and by these every inducement, with the aid of out-relief, was given to people to become paupers. It was not the fault of the poor themselves; but the question was whether those above the poor had done their duty by the poor. In past times, before the abolition of the law of settlement, the landowners did not attempt to assist in the better administration of the law, but pulled the cottages down and drove out the poor, and that was followed by the Union Chargeability Act, which gave the landowners their share of responsibility. Now those who should share in the administration refused their responsibility, and as the guardians would not act upon the first principle of the law it would be needful, he thought, to go to Parliament to empower the Local Government Board to frame orders which should bind unreflecting administrators to act upon definite principles.

Mr. Long, Mr. Stanley Leighton, and Mr. G. Storer, M.P., spoke, the last deprecating the abolition of out-relief.

Mr. C. S. Read, M.P., said it was proved by practical experience that where out-relief was diminished in-door relief was not increased, and the returns in the metropolis proved this. There was no need to apply to Parliament or to the Local Government Board, for the law was good enough, and the principle was good enough to meet all cases, but the reform that was wanted was to reform the guardians. If Boards of Guardians would leave philanthropy and Christianity and narrow ideas as to ‘humanity’ at home, and administer the law on the principle of political economy, there would soon be a sensible decrease of pauperism. (Hear, hear.) Since he had had the honour of being at the Local Government Board he had been astonished to find how the Department had to fight against out-relief, and this in many ways. On his Union Board there were seven parsons (a laugh), and what could be expected from such a Board but that they would be very great supporters of out-relief? But this administration led to pauperism. (Hear, hear.) He turned their attention to the Scottish and Irish Acts, and mal-administration had made the people in the former well-to-do country anxious to get as much as they could out of the rates in the way of a scramble for out-relief, while in the poverty-stricken country of Ireland, where the unflinching workhouse test was applied, pauperism was low and the rates had lately sensibly diminished.



The other speakers were Baron Dimsdale, Mr. Horley, the Rev. Mr. Smythies, and Lord Hampton; and the amendment by Mr. Bury was carried. To this Lord Hampton moved a rider, to the effect that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary should draw up a petition to Parliament, praying that steps might be taken to promote a stricter administration of the Poor Law.

This was carried, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

### THE MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY AND THE PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

(From the *British Medical Journal*.)

Those philanthropic gentlemen, who, three years ago, set on foot the scheme of provident dispensaries for Manchester and Salford—a scheme which has already been partially carried out—are receiving gratifying proofs that their action was in harmony with the current of public opinion, and that their labours are appreciated by their fellow-townsmen. In a circular dated May 10th, the weekly Board of the Royal Infirmary comment upon the progress which the movement has made, and then draw the attention of the trustees and subscribers to some points with which the existing medical charities are more particularly concerned. The opinions of the Weekly Board are so much in harmony with those which we have often expressed, that we have peculiar satisfaction in quoting one or two passages from the circular.

'The guarantee fund (of the Provident Dispensary Association) now amounts to over £1,000 a year, and the Board are gratified to be able to state that three dispensaries are in full work, and the arrangements are completed for three others shortly to be opened. The success which they have met with has been most encouraging, many of the members being such as would ordinarily have applied at a free hospital, and, in one instance, a large proportion were actually in attendance at a medical charity. This success has been attained without bringing into operation any pressure on the part of the medical charities.

'The Board now feel that the time has arrived when the duties of the trustees and subscribers to the charity and their own application of the existing rules should be thoroughly and completely carried out, by a careful investigation of the circumstances of the patients applying for relief. The provident dispensaries enable them to do this without any hardship whatever, and the Council of the Association undertake all the expense and trouble of examining and reporting to the various institutions. The Board earnestly invite the assistance of the trustees and subscribers in promoting so desirable an object. Every precaution will be taken to prevent any rapid or severe application of the rules, and the Board would suggest to the trustees and subscribers the careful consideration of the recommendation-forms, which are the same as have been in use for a long period, and which, if the directions contained therein are acted upon, will materially lighten the labours of the investigating officers, and render unnecessary any rejection of applicants.

'In conclusion, the Board would suggest to the trustees the serious consideration of the recommendation system as applied to the out and home-patients. With an efficient investigating machinery, much time might be saved and suffering avoided by a direct application to the charities. There would be the assurance that all cases of emergency would be properly dealt with, and other suitable cases receive appropriate treatment, while the trustees and subscribers would be saved the trouble and inconvenience of personal applications, and making investigations which have at no time produced satisfactory results. At the annual meeting, it is proposed to discuss the propriety of abolishing this system, so far as it applies to the out and home-patients, when the trustees will have an opportunity of expressing their opinions upon the question.'

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—We learn from the *Scotsman* that the Committee on Pauperism recently submitted a report, calling attention to the good likely to be done by the Charity Organisation Society by preventing persons falling into pauperism, and expressing gratification at the fact that similar societies were being formed in many parts of the kingdom.

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FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.  
PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.  
ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Barnsbury, N.  
HACKNEY—Old Town Hall, E.  
ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
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BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
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LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
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SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council. This fund is now nearly exhausted.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 142.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 16, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

The Council are sending Investigation Tickets, at the request of the School Board, to the Superintendents of Visitors of the ten Metropolitan Divisions. District Committees are requested to hold themselves ready to supply these in future.

The Superintendents will send to the Hon. Secretaries of the respective Committees a list of the names and addresses of the persons to whom tickets are given, and the District Committees are requested to communicate to the Superintendents the result arrived at in the case of each person who receives a ticket and applies at the District Office.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, Major Prendergast, W. W. Moore, Esq., Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Lady Wilson, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Bishop Beckles, Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., Mrs. Barnett, E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; Samuel Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; Edgar Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; A. Annesley, Esq., George Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Chas. Trevelyan, G. Blount, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., T. J. Phillips-Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 38. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*. H. J. Erskine, Esq., Rev. Phillips Watson, *Visitors*.

A letter was read from Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., accepting a Vice-Presidentship of the Society.

The Secretary reported that Mr. A. L. Young had consented to act as an Hon. Secretary of the Poplar Committee.

## VOTING CHARITIES.

Mr. Edgecombe asked what the practice of District Committees was when asked to give money or influence in order to obtain assistance from a Voting Charity. His own Committee had been so asked.

The Secretary read the following extract from the Report of the Poplar Committee for 1873, referring to an application, by a candidate for admission to a Hospital for Incurables, for assistance to defray the expenses of printing and circulating cards and appeals required for his canvass:—

The Committee, while commiserating his unfortunate condition, decided not to give him the assistance asked for, feeling that they might, with justice, promote the canvass of many other of the numerous candidates for election to various voting charities, and that at best they would, if successful, have done no more than secure for one case assistance which would, owing to their very success, be withheld from some other case, possibly in more urgent need.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen said that his Committee had on one occasion taken up the case of a candidate for an Incurable Hospital. He had signed 300 applications himself. If the Council had laid down any rule on the subject he would have obeyed it, but he was not aware that there was any rule.

Miss Hill said that the Marylebone Committee had offered to pay for a child at a small institution to which admittance could be obtained, either by payment or votes, but had refused to have anything to do with canvassing.

The Secretary stated that when subscribers to voting charities had sent their votes to him to dispose of, the Administrative Committee had authorised him to return the voting papers, with a suggestion that they should be sent to the managers of the voting charity, as they were the only persons able to compare the claims of different candidates.

Mr. Maurice and Mr. Seton-Karr asked for letters for the Sea-bathing Infirmary, Margate, and for the Eastbourne Convalescent Home, on behalf of the Hampstead and Chelsea Committees respectively.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending June 5 the receipts had been £18. 11s. for the General Fund, and £12. 10s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £725. 17s. 3d. and £10. 1s. 3d. respectively.

They had received a letter from the Kensington Committee, suggesting that the Divisional Superintendents of the School Board should be requested to furnish information to the District Committees with regard to the cases they send, and not merely to give an Investigation Ticket; but they thought it inexpedient to make any such request to the School Board, till experience had shown what was required, and that they proposed to consider the suggestion further after the recess.



Mr. Edgcombe moved:—

That so much of the Report as related to the letter from Kensington be referred back to the Administrative Committee; and that they be instructed to request the Divisional Superintendents of Visitors to furnish Committees with any information it may be in their power to afford relative to cases submitted for investigation.

He only wished to ask the same from the School Board officers which was asked from every member of the public—viz., that when they sent a case they should furnish such information as they possessed, and should indicate with what view the case was sent. The District Committee ought to know what statement had been made to the School Board Committee.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson thought that the School Board officers had no right to ask for such information as the District Committees would require.

Mr. A. H. Hill deprecated any action which could lead to an undue preference being given to School Board cases.

Sir Charles Trevelyan thought that all that was required was to ascertain the circumstances of the family, with a view to judging whether relief was required, and how it could be rendered most effectual.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen was in favour of going on with the arrangement as it stood until the autumn.

Mr. J. R. Hollond agreed with Mr. Edgcombe that it was desirable that the District Committee should know what had been stated to the officer of the School Board, but he need not be asked to write this down. The agent might go to him.

Mr. Edgcombe's motion was put and lost by 15 to 11, and the Report was adopted, special sanction being given for the issue of a circular prepared by the Sub-Committee on Visits to Offices.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

Authority was given to institute prosecutions against two impostors, and a grant of £70 was made to the Fulham Committee.

#### HELP BY EMPLOYMENT.

A letter having been read from Mr. Willis-Bund, regretting that he was unexpectedly prevented from attending, and asking that some member might be found to resume the adjourned discussion on Employment, Sir Charles Trevelyan consented to take Mr. Bund's place.

The following resolution had been moved by Mr. Hill on April 12:—

That work should be treated as the best form of relief, but only accorded, as in all other cases, after the fullest investigation into the circumstances of the applicant.

Sir Charles Trevelyan said that a sub-committee had fully considered the subject of Employment in 1871, but had only been able to arrive at negative conclusions. Labour was a commodity, and was subject to the laws which regulated the exchange of commodities. Little more could be done than remove restrictions. London, unfortunately, suffered from a congestion of labour. Time out of mind the most unsettled part of the population had poured into London. Charity and out-relief intensified the evil. The only remedy was to make the workers go to the work. Much had been done to encourage migration to the manufacturing districts, and many suitable families—widows with children of working age—had been found on the Poor-law books; but too many of them clung to their out-relief, and preferred this to work and independence. If the Council desired to distribute the surplus London hands to the quarters where they were wanted, and where they could earn ample wages, to raise the rate of wages for those who remain, and to bring about a higher standard of

living, they must stop indiscriminate almsgiving and outdoor relief.

Mr. Fuller called attention to the Labour Registers of some of the Committees. One of the best of them was managed by a sub-committee of ladies.

The Rev. H. G. Henderson did not think that work even of inferior kinds was so ill-paid in London as Sir Charles Trevelyan had implied. The lowness of the wages of dock-labourers was due in part to the shortness of the hours during which they were allowed to work—from 8 to 4 in summer, and 9 to 4 in winter.

Mr. A. H. Hill, in replying, pointed out the necessity for recognising the fact that there must be slack times and times of want of employment, and that the working classes, like other classes, must live within their income. The non-recognition of this led to much thriftlessness.

The resolution was agreed to, and the Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, June 12, 1875:—*Annual*: J. Mann, Esq., £1. 1s.; Buxton Whalley, Esq., £1. 1s.; Capt. Hon. F. Bridgeman, £2.; C. W. W. Wynn, Esq., M.P., £1. 1s.; *District Committee Aid Fund*: W. Jones Loyd, Esq., £25.

The following business stands for Monday, June 21:—

Sir Charles Trevelyan to move:

'1. That, as by the census returns of 1871, there were in England and Wales 29,452 idiots or imbeciles, which number is admitted to be 25 per cent. below the mark, showing a total of 36,835, or 1 in every 621 of the population; and as the condition of many youthful idiots can be altogether altered and improved by adapted training, while a large proportion of the remainder are quite unfit to mix with ordinary members of society—and union-houses and lunatic asylums are, for many reasons, unsuitable receptacles for idiots—training schools should be provided for improvable, and permanent asylums for unimprovable idiots.

'2. That, in order to elicit the sympathy and active co-operation and support of the wealthy and charitable, the training schools should, as far as possible, be conducted upon the voluntary principle, and that with this object the managers of existing asylums depending upon public subscriptions for their support be invited to modify their rules so as to make their institutions available as part of a national system.

'3. That, besides the general objections to the canvassing and voting system as a means of admission to charitable institutions, it is in an especial manner inapplicable to making provision for idiots, inasmuch as their successful treatment depends upon their being selected at the proper age to be placed either in a training school or permanent asylum, according to the nature of their respective cases.

'4. That the Government be memorialised to allow the capitation-grant of 4s. a week to be paid for poor idiots admitted into training schools or permanent asylums, in the same way as it is now allowed for pauper idiots placed in county lunatic asylums, and also a further capitation-grant to training schools to be paid out of the Parliamentary Grant for Education, provided such schools comply with the conditions which may from time to time be prescribed by the Education Department, and are open to inspection by the officers of that Department; and that further payments be made by friends who are able to do so, or by Boards of Guardians.

'5. That exertions should be made to establish the necessary additional number of training schools on this principle throughout the country; and that permanent asylums for unimprovable cases needing supervision, shelter, and kind care, should be established upon the grounds of the county lunatic asylums or elsewhere, either singly or for two counties combined; the expense of building and maintenance being defrayed out of the county rates, aided by the Government capitation-grant, and by the contributions of the Boards of Guardians and the friends of the idiots.

'6. That, in order to facilitate the establishment of training schools and permanent asylums, the Government be asked to introduce a Bill especially for the regulation of Idiot Asylums, releasing such asylums from the stringent regulations of the Lunacy Act, 8 and 9 Vict. cap. 100, which was passed before an idiot asylum existed, such release being in accordance with the recommendations of the Lunacy Commissioners in their Reports to the Lord Chancellor for the years 1865 and 1868.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill to move:

'That, in the opinion of this Council, the principles of the Charity Organisation Society cannot be fully and effectually applied pending the stricter administration of the Poor Law, more particularly in reference to the question of out-door relief, and that the Committees of this Society be recommended to take every means in their power, to promote a more efficient administration of the Law.'



## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	
Kensington .....	1	5	3	9	1	..	..	1	2	..	7	..	9
Fulham .....	1	1	1	3	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Paddington .....	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	1	2	..	3	2	7
Chelsea .....	2	..	2	4	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. George's Division.	1	1	2	4	1	..	1	3	..	1	4	..	6
Westminster do.	2	2	4	8	1	..	1	5	1	..	4	..	6
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. James' & St. Anne's	2	1	3	6	..	2	2	4	..	..	1	1	2
St. Marylebone .....	1	1	4	6	..	2	2	4	..	4	3	7	14
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
South St. Pancras .....	3	4	7	14	..	5	5	10	1	..	7	8	20
Islington .....	1	2	4	7	..	..	..	..	4	1	2	7	14
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	4	6
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	4	6
Strand .....	..	3	3	6	1	..	3	4	..	1	1	2	4
Holborn .....	1	2	3	6	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	2	4
City .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	..	4	5
Shoreditch .....	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Whitechapel .....	1	1	2	4	..	2	2	4	..	..	3	3	6
St. George's-in-the-East	..	2	2	4	..	1	1	2	..	2	1	3	6
Stepney .....	1	1	2	4	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	2	4
Mile End Old Town ..	1	1	2	4	..	3	3	6	1	1	2	4	9
*Poplar .....	..	2	6	8	..	..	1	1	2	..	6	8	16
St. Saviour's .....	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4
St. Olave's .....	2	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5
Lambeth:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5
North .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5
Wandsworth & Putney	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4
*Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grove Lane .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2
Greenwich .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	3	4
Deptford .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	1	2	2	..	1	2	5
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	5
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	8
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
Sydenham .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4
Total .....	17	21	42	80	8	13	14	35	34	17	13	34	98
	213	82	118	413									

\* No return received from these Committees at time of going to press.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of May 1875 was 33,288, and 53,262 received out-door relief, making a total of 86,550. This was a decrease of 722 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,521, 17,565, and 21,252 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 470. This was a decrease of 101 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 127 on the corresponding day of last year.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' HOMES.**—At Norwich (says the *Metropolitan*, in an article on the Education of Pauper Children) an unusual set of arrangements are in operation, this town being renowned for its independent and original modes of procedure. The permanent pupils of each sex are lodged in distinct establishments, called the Boys' and Girls' Homes. The former is a house situated in the town, but provided with a piece of ground, a part of which is cultivated by the boys. The inmates are divided into working-boys and schoolboys, of whom the former are boys that have been discharged from the school, and are earning their living at various employments, but are boarded and lodged in the home, and contribute out of their earnings towards the cost of their maintenance. The weekly payments of each boy very nearly cover his board and lodging. He remains in the house, on an average, two years, after which period he is generally able to earn enough to provide for himself. Only those boys are admitted to the home who could not otherwise procure respectable lodgings. The schoolboys are, unlike the former, pauper children, who are sent there from the workhouse. They are very efficiently taught, but do not receive any systematic industrial training; but this deficiency has not occasioned any injurious moral consequences, as they become working-boys at an early age, and their daily contact with the boys composing that class gives an industrial bias to their minds, probably as strong and enduring as if labour formed part of their daily occupations. The girls are sent to service, so they do not have any working girls' home.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**PADDINGTON.**—This Committee have granted the use of a room at their office, for the meetings of a Ladies' Sub-Committee of the Infant Life Protection Society.

The office now closes on Saturday, at 12 o'clock.

**Impostor.**—The Rev. H. Housman, Chaplain of the Dudley-Stuart Home, writes to us, that the impostor mentioned in connection with the Paddington Committee, in the 'Reporter' for June 2, has been caught and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. 'He said he had carried on this trade for years, and made a comfortable living by it.' The man in question, Thomas Gater, *alias* Thompson, was sentenced at the Clerkenwell Sessions on the 24th ult. There were five former convictions produced against him.

## REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Forty-Fourth Report of the District Charitable Society of Calcutta (Office, 154 Dhurumtollah), 1875.

Report of the Managing Committee of the Yorkshire School for the Blind, 1875.

Fifteenth Annual Report of the Glasgow Mission to the Out-Door Blind, 1875.

On the Present Mode of Election to the Benefits of the Principal London Charities. By Charles Hood, F.R.S.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-fifth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Fyers, Dr. Hawksley, Messrs. T. Clarke, F. Fuller, Alsager Hay Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, R. Bruce Reid, John L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, Mr. Barnhill (Glasgow) and the Hon. H. Walpole, Visitors, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

Draft Suggestions to the parents of blind children, furnished by Mr. Buckle, Superintendent of the York Blind School, were read, and it was agreed that the Administrative Committee should be requested to have proof copies printed for the use of members.

Mr. Martin Tait brought up a list of employments known or believed to be pursued by Blind persons.

It was resolved: 'That the above list be treated as a matter of statistical return, for which this Committee is much indebted to Mr. Tait, and that it be now printed and circulated amongst the members for the purpose of ascertaining their respective opinions as to which of the occupations named can be followed with substantial and remunerative results within the meaning of the preamble to the resolution, and that all other occupations known to have been followed by the Blind be placed in a supplementary list, together with suggestions of new occupations.'

The Committee took Head III. into consideration:—'What new agencies, if any, are required?'

It was resolved, on Mr. Tait's motion:—

'That in default of the provision of the opportunities recommended in the resolution of April 21, the Committee approve of the formation of Preparatory Schools for the early training and care of Blind children.'

## BRIGHTON, HOVE, AND PRESTON CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

We take the following statement from the *Sussex Daily News*, in which a similar paragraph appears weekly:—

'The following cases were brought before the Committee during the week ending Saturday last, June 5th:—

'No. 1,171.—An application for a card for the Lying-In Institution. Applicant understated her husband's income by the omission of an important engagement. Not a proper case for charitable assistance.—Dismissed as ineligible.

'No. 1,172.—A case sent by a lady who has on more than one occasion received from Scotland a highly charged appeal on behalf of a poor sufferer, who is said to be afflicted with cancer. The appeal is not strictly a begging letter, for while it addresses the feelings and is full of scriptural texts and sentimental expressions, it simply announces that the afflicted patient makes wax flowers, which she offers for sale to the kind-hearted benevolent who are willing to assist her in her dire calamity. It is not charity that is asked, but custom in the form of orders. The inhabitants of Brighton will do well to pause and inquire before they send money in answer to this, or indeed to any appeal of the sort.

'RECURRENT CASES.—No. 384: Sent by a gentleman for investigation that he may assist, if found to be deserving. An industrious woman of good character, and with a son at home seriously ill, and in bed. To be favourably reported to the inquirer, who immediately forwarded to the



office the sum of £1 to be devoted to the poor woman's relief.—No. 645: A lamentable case of ingratitude and bad conduct, illustrative of the difficulty of helping people whose vices prevent them from helping themselves. The man, for whom the Committee, with the assistance of benevolent friends, purchased a barrow to enable him to get his living by working for brokers and laundresses, got on very well for a time, with every prospect of success, but at length he became idle, took to drinking, and sold his barrow for half its value, that he might indulge his fatal propensity. To be recorded and the information to be sent to the parochial authorities, whose grocery and other tickets he has been known to sell for the purpose of procuring drink.—No. 913: A woman applied for temporary relief till her husband goes into a situation to which he has been appointed. Grant of 10s. in kind.—No. 1,126: An application for assistance to enable a man to purchase his landlady's mangle. Applicant does not belong to Brighton, but was sent here by a clergyman under the idea that Brighton would do him good in a sanitary point of view. It is not at all likely that the man and his wife will be able to earn an independent livelihood, and it is highly probable that they will eventually become chargeable to the rates. Brighton has good reason to complain of the benevolence that thus adds to her burdens, already too large. Ineligible.

'An answer to a question from a metropolitan institution.

'Forty-seven wayfarers, pleading hunger and in search of work, were relieved with bread, which was eaten in the office, 108, Church Street.'

POOR RELIEF IN WHITECHAPEL.—'With regard to this subject,' says the Rev. S. A. Barnett in his recently-issued Pastoral Address for 1874-5, 'Another year's experience has confirmed all our previous views. The truth of the statement that "the poor starve because of the alms they receive," has come home to us very often during the year. It is disheartening to know that many good people at work in the East End still give doles of 6d., and encourage the poor to depend on them for food, schooling, and clothing. As long as such practices continue, we cannot expect the people to work or save. The effect of our plan (described last year) of dealing with applications for relief, has been that the applications have nearly ceased. Those who suffer because of viciousness or extravagance shrink from inquiry, and do not care for the action which would force them into another way of living; they therefore no longer apply. This result is good. Such able-bodied applicants want not help in money, but kindly advice, and the training which comes of stern refusals to all begging petitions for gifts. The money entrusted to us for the poor has been spent in pensions to widows or old couples, in luxuries for the sick, and in sending girls away from the district to distant schools or training homes. The pensions, amounting to 2s. 6d. a week, are only given when we know that by them the recipients will be raised above want or the necessity of begging, and are therefore received only by those who have been provident in earlier years. The luxuries to the sick are given to those attended by the nurse, Mrs. Ryder. She is most unfailing in her work, and there is no one in the parish who does not know her, and seek her willing help in time of illness. The girls sent away to homes or schools are those who were in terrible danger as orphans, or as children of bad parents. To leave them alone in courts such as abound in this neighbourhood means almost certain ruin for the children, while their presence is no check to the parents, who spend days and nights away, leaving their children to get food as they best can. If you will make use of our experience you will sternly refuse to give to any one, without first sending the applicant to the Charity Organisation Society's Office, 194 Commercial Road. The Secretary there will return to you, free of charge, a full report on the applicant, and you will be able to judge what help he really wants. If you think it hard to refuse your money, give your time; there is plenty of work to be done by loving hearts and kindly sense.'

A FOREIGN BEGGING-LETTER CASE.—A person named Mary Brown, giving as her address Poste Restante, Drohobycz, Lemberg, Austria, a short time since wrote to a lady residing in London, appealing for assistance on the ground that six weeks before she had been attacked with fever, and had been abandoned in a destitute condition in the place she wrote from by a family who had employed her as governess; and stating that the persons with whom she was lodging were Jews, and threatened to turn her into the street if she did not pay the debt to them, which had been incurred during her illness; and that she had been nursed by a sister of charity, who had introduced to her a Jesuit, who offered to pay her debts if she would become a Roman Catholic. The letter was forwarded to the Charity Organisation Society for inquiry, and it was found that no person of the name of Mary Brown had ever resided at Drohobycz; that there were no Sisters of Charity or Jesuits in the neighbourhood, and that appeals for assistance for the same person had been received by an English clergyman residing at Lemberg, and had also been sent to charitable institutions in England. Attempts made to discover her present residence failed, but it was believed both at Drohobycz and Lemberg that the letter was written by an impostor who was endeavouring to obtain money from the charitable by false pretences.

In One Volume, 8vo. cloth, price 12s. 6d.

## WALKER'S ORIGINAL.

Edited by Dr. GUY, F.R.S.

The work has been compared to the 'Spectator,' 'Tatler,' and 'Guardian.' It treats of the art of Dining, Travelling, and attaining High Health, and on Religion, Morals, and Manners; and contains a series of Essays, based on inquiry and experience, on Dole-giving and Poor Laws, and the means of improving the condition of the Poor and Destitute.

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## THE SANITARY RECORD:

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## THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION

SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities, and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co's., 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

## THE LABOUR NEWS, Price One Penny.—A Weekly

Organ of information on the condition and requirements of the Labour Market in town and country. Edited by ALSAGER HAY HILL. Correspondence is requested from all parts.—Offices: 1 Long Acre, London, W.

Post-free One quarter, 1s. 9d.; a Year, 6s. 6d.

## A STRONG CASE for HALF-BINDING the NUMBERS

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COVERS in Dark Green Cloth, for filing current Numbers of the *Reporter*, may be had of Mr. STACY, 257 Euston Road, N.W., post-free, on receipt of 1s. 3d. in postage-stamps.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d. s. d.

Forty Numbers (the average issue for a year) ... 5 0

Those who wish to subscribe are requested to allow their names to be entered as 'subscribing till further orders'; in this case payments need not be made in advance. Orders can only be entered for a year or other definite periods if accompanied by a remittance.

Post-office Orders payable to CHARLES B. P. BOSANQUET, at the Charing Cross Post-office. Stamps will be received in payment; but Subscribers are reminded that Post-office Orders for sums under 10s. can be obtained for 1d.

Any Subscriber changing his address or not receiving his copy is requested to communicate with the Secretary, 15 Buckingham Street, W.C.



# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 143.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 23, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Brighton Charity Organisation Society have removed their office from 108 Church Street, to 182 Edward Street, Brighton.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Rev. H. Hayman, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, R. Dundas, Esq., Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; Sir Charles Reed, *Hackney*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., *Bethnal Green*; C. L. Corkran, Esq., C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End Old Town*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 33. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*. Dr. Cortis, Dr. De Vitre, G. T. Gibson, Esq., Rev. Canon Hopkins, Rev. H. Ruck-Keene, W. Millard, Esq., Dr. Hack-Tuke, *Visitors*.

The Secretary reported that District Committee Paper No. 6, being a reprint of the Information Papers, with the terms of the arrangement entered into in winter with the Newport Market Refuge and various resolutions of Council, had been printed off.

He was instructed to send copies to the District offices.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending June 12 the receipts had been £5 3s. for the General Fund, and £25 for the District Com-

mittee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £723 6s. 3d. and £35 1s. 3d. respectively.

That a printed letter from Mr. G. M. Hicks had been read to them, accompanying a pamphlet on the origin of the Society, and requesting a decision of the Council on the subject.

## TRAINING SCHOOLS AND ASYLUMS FOR IDIOTS.

Sir Charles Trevelyan then brought forward the resolutions of which he had given notice. The resolutions were as follows:—

'1. That, as by the census returns of 1871, there were in England and Wales 29,452 idiots or imbeciles, which number is admitted to be 25 per cent. below the mark, showing a total of 36,835, or 1 in every 621 of the population; and as the condition of many youthful idiots can be altogether altered and improved by adapted training, while a large proportion of the remainder are quite unfit to mix with ordinary members of society—and union-houses and lunatic asylums are, for many reasons, unsuitable receptacles for idiots—training schools should be provided for improvable idiots, and permanent asylums for those of a very low type.

'2. That, in order to elicit the sympathy and active co-operation and support of the wealthy and charitable, the training schools should, as far as possible, be conducted upon the voluntary principle, and that with this object the managers of existing asylums depending upon public subscriptions for their support be invited to modify their rules so as to make their institutions available as part of a national system.

'3. That, besides the general objections to the canvassing and voting system as a means of admission to charitable institutions, it is in an especial manner inapplicable to making provision for idiots, inasmuch as their successful treatment depends upon their being selected at the proper age to be placed either in a training school or permanent asylum, according to the nature of their respective cases.

'4. That the Government be memorialised to allow a capitation-grant to idiot training schools to be paid out of the Parliamentary Grant for Education, provided such schools comply with the conditions which may from time to time be prescribed by the Education Department, and are open to inspection by the officers of that Department; and that further payments be made by friends who are able to do so, or by Boards of Guardians.

'5. That exertions should be made to establish the necessary additional number of training schools on this principle throughout the country; and that permanent asylums for unimprovable cases needing supervision, shelter, and kind care should be established upon the grounds of the county lunatic asylums or elsewhere, either singly or for two counties combined; the expense of building and maintenance being defrayed out of the county rates, aided by the Government capitation-grant, and by the contributions of the Boards of Guardians and the friends of the idiots.

'6. That, in order to facilitate the establishment of training schools and permanent asylums, the Government be asked to introduce a Bill especially for the regulation of Idiot Asylums, releasing such asylums from the stringent regulations of the Lunacy Act, 8 and 9 Vict. cap. 100, which was passed before an idiot asylum existed, such release being in accordance with the recommendations of the Lunacy Commissioners in their Reports to the Lord Chancellor for the years 1865 and 1868.'

Sir Charles read a letter from the Earl of Devon regretting that parliamentary business prevented him from being present, and stating that he concurred in the general scope of the resolutions. He distributed copies of a pamphlet explaining the resolutions, and of a letter from the Commissioners in Lunacy, from which we take the following extracts:—



'I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners fully recognise the importance of the subject with which the Resolutions are concerned, and desire to express a general concurrence with the views therein expressed.

'The Commissioners have always held that Training Schools should be provided for the more intelligent idiots, and Permanent Asylums for those of a very low type. Their experience shows that there are scarcely any idiots who are not to some extent "improvable," under early and careful supervision, as to cleanliness and habits generally.

\* \* \* \* \*

'In conclusion, I am to assure you that the Commissioners in Lunacy will view with interest any movement tending towards the increase of facilities for training and educating idiot children, whether of the private or of the pauper class.'

Sir Charles said: The first resolution calls attention to the fact that, although idiots are only about one in every 771 of the population, the existing provision of every sort for them is totally inadequate, so that they have to be put away in large numbers in lunatic asylums and union-houses, where they both do and suffer harm. It also affirms that a just division of labour should be established between training schools for those capable of instruction and improvement, and asylums for those who can only be sheltered and kindly cared for. All the members of this unfortunate branch of our national family are equally entitled to compassion and care according to their respective circumstances; but nothing effectual can be done for them until the subject has been rescued from its present confused elementary state, and a comprehensive plan has been agreed upon to be worked up to by all parties concerned.

The second and third resolutions propose that the training-schools should be based upon the voluntary principle, and that the managers of the existing institutions should be invited to modify their rules so as to allow of idiots being admitted, without expense or delay, at the age most favourable for their improvement. A movement has been in progress for some years for the purpose of establishing the requisite number of idiot training schools. The Earlswood Asylum furnished the original impulse and model; and, since that, the Eastern Counties have associated for the establishment of the institution at Colchester; the seven Northern Counties for that at Lancaster; the South-Western Counties have recently founded one at Star Cross; and a commencement has been made in the Midland Counties. All these institutions are upon the voluntary principle; and it is hoped that, by combining scattered efforts and assisting them out of national funds, as proposed in the next resolution, the object may be attained of providing for the whole country a sufficient outfit of idiot training-schools.

But, in order that these institutions may form part of a national system, and participate in the grants out of national funds, it is indispensable that the admissions to them should depend upon a careful selection of the cases which, owing to age and other circumstances, are most likely to benefit by the training given, and not, as at present, upon the uncertain result of a multitudinous vote. The Lunacy Commissioners 'are fully aware of the mischief of delay in placing the idiot under training at the suitable age in each case;' and Canon Hopkins suggests that 'the rules of such institutions should not be so framed as to necessitate delays which would render it impossible for any case to receive at the proper time the training essential to its successful treatment.' But neither on this nor on any other point is any precipitate action desired. All that is wanted is that, as in the case of the blind institutions referred to at pages 6 and 7 of the pamphlet, the plan should be based upon a sound principle, to which effect may be given at the proper time without compromising any existing interest.

The fourth resolution relates to ways and means.

While, on the one hand, the relatives and others interested

in the idiots will be saved the expense and anxiety of canvassing, they should, on the other, be required to pay for the advantages received to the extent their circumstances will allow.

Next in order come private subscriptions, donations, and bequests. When the claims of these unhappy people have been brought to the front, and each district has been made responsible for its own training school and asylum, the exchequer of British charity will be freely opened for them; and

Last of all, contributions from the public purse may be looked for under three separate heads:—

1. Payments out of the rates for pauper idiots;
2. A capitation grant from Parliament of 4s. a head, which is already payable in respect to any pauper idiot in a training school or permanent asylum duly licensed or registered under the Lunacy Acts; and
3. A share in the annual Grant for Education proportioned to the service done in improving a class of children who, more than any other, stand in need of education, not only on their own account, but also for the sake of others.

The permanent asylums for idiots of a low type should primarily be maintained out of the county rates aided by payments from the families of the idiots, or, in the case of pauper idiots, from the Poor Rate and the Government Capitation Grant. A large saving might be effected by appropriating to this object union-houses, which in some parts of the country are no longer required for their original purpose, owing to the diminished pressure of pauperism; and there would be a further local economy owing to the same house being used for Poor Law purposes by more than one union.

Thus, by requiring all to contribute in proportion to their means and to the interest which they have in the object, it will be possible to make a suitable provision for the whole of this unhappy class of our population.

The progress which has been made towards this end in the Metropolitan district under the Asylums Board will, I hope, be explained by others more competent to enter into the details than I am. All harmless imbeciles have been removed from the Metropolitan workhouses to the asylums at Caterham and Leavesden, and a further step in advance has lately been taken by placing the children in a separate training school at Clapton.

Sir Charles concluded by moving a resolution, which was ultimately brought into the following form:—

'That the Council, recognising the expediency of placing Institutions for Idiots and Imbeciles on the most comprehensive and satisfactory footing, resolves that a Committee be formed to consider and report upon the whole subject, and that the resolutions now submitted by Sir Charles Trevelyan, together with the draft Bill submitted by Canon Hopkins, be referred to such Committee for their consideration.'

The Rev. R. J. Simpson seconded the resolution.

Mr. Millard, the Superintendent of the Eastern Counties Asylum, said that he believed that this was the first meeting which had ever considered what should be done for the idiots, not of one part of the country, but of all England. He had been asked to speak to the sixth resolution. In the eye of the law idiots were lunatics, and all the provisions of the Lunacy Acts as to registration and licensing applied to them. The Lunacy Commissioners regretted this, and had again and again advocated special establishments for idiots.

The Rev. Canon Hopkins having been called on, said that, as Chairman of a Board of Guardians, and from connection with the Essex Hall Asylum, he had been led to take much interest in the subject. He read the heads of a draft Bill which he had prepared, and which, amongst many other provisions, gave the Lunacy Commissioners power to



dispense, in regard to Idiot Asylums, with such provisions of the Lunacy Acts as were unsuitable.

Dr. Cortis said that the Metropolitan Asylums Board had been doing for London much what Sir Charles desired to see done. First, they had taken the imbeciles from the work-houses, in which, though there was no intentional unkindness, they had not the special care that they required, to Caterham and Leavesden. Then, finding that a number of children had been sent to them, they sent them to Clapton, and they were now about to build a training school for 500 children. A few had been sent out already able to earn their own living, and an immense improvement might be seen in all after twelve months.

Dr. De Vitre said that he had had large experience with regard both to idiots and lunatics, in connection with the Northern Counties Asylum at Lancaster and otherwise. He cordially supported the early part of the first resolution. He did not however see the advantage of separating the training schools from the asylums. All idiots were improvable till they reached a very advanced age, though, of course, it was a great advantage to get hold of them young. He thought that they should be classified, but under one roof, and with one superintendent. There should not be above 600 inmates. From a medical point of view there were three classes,—idiots, imbeciles, and epileptics. The last were not received at Lancaster, and he believed that the Earlswood Asylum had decided not to receive them in future. There was no doubt that an Act of Parliament was required.

Sir Charles Reed understood that the Committee which it was proposed to form would be perfectly free as to the proposed resolutions. He was satisfied that some action was imperatively required, especially for those just above the pauper class. As Chairman of the London School Board his attention had been drawn to the large number of imbecile children. At Earlswood there were just under 600 cases, most of them children under 12. He believed that Parliament would receive any practical measure, like that sketched out by Canon Hopkins, with sympathy. He deprecated the resolutions being referred to the proposed Committee; the Committee would then have to consider them. Had they been before the Council for consideration, he must have taken objection to statements contained in them.

Some further discussion took place on this point; and a motion for adjournment and an amendment in favour of omitting the last clause of the resolution having been put and lost, the resolution in the form given above was put and carried by 9 to 1.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, June 19, 1875:—Richard Foster, Esq., £20; Colonel Bryan Milman, £5; Miss Walton, £5. *Annual*: W. Burgess, Esq., £1. 1s.; Chief Constable of East Sussex, £2. 2s.; Meysey Clive, Esq., £1. 1s.; Miss Courtenay, £2; J. T. Dodd, Esq., 5s.; H. D. Erskine, Esq., £1. 1s.; W. H. Hall, Esq., £1; Rev. J. Martineau, £1. 1s.; Charles McGarel, Esq. (last instalment of £50), £10; H. B. Praed, Esq., M.P. (2nd subscription 1875), £1. 1s.; W. Rathbone, Esq., M.P., £2. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Kensington Committee, £100; W. Rathbone, Esq., M.P., £5; H. Rogers, Esq., £10. 10s.

The following business stands for Monday, June 28:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:

1. That a grant of £20 be made to the Mile End Committee on account.
2. That the Council reply to the letter from Mr. G. M. Hicks (see p. 93)—That whilst they gratefully acknowledge the labours of Mr. Hicks and many other gentlemen in connection with the question of organising charitable relief and repressing mendicancy, they do not think it advisable to enter upon the question of the origin of the Society.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill to move:—‘That, in the opinion of this Council, the principles of the Charity Organisation Society cannot be fully and effectually applied pending the stricter administration of the Poor Law, more particularly in reference to the question of out-door relief, and that the Committees of this Society be recommended to take every means in their power to promote a more efficient administration of the Law.’

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with				
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants					Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	4	3	4	11	..	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	4	17	10	2	10
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	4	1	2	6
Paddington .....	3	3	2	8	..	2	1	3	4	4	3	2	13	24	18	3	..
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	1	5	5	6	3	..
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. James's Division.	2	..	4	6	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	21	2	1
Westminster do.	..	1	2	3	..	1	..	1	4	3	..	..	6	22	2	..	..
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	6	..	..	..	..
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	3	1	1	4
St. Marylebone .....	4	2	2	8	..	7	4	11	..	3	3	2	8	27	7	5	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South St. Pancras .....	3	3	8	14	..	1	1	2	2	..	..	2	2	18	8	3	2
Islington .....	1	..	3	4	..	..	1	1	3	1	1	..	5	10	17	6	3
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	..
Strand .....	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	5	..	2	..
Holborn .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	4	7	1
City .....	1	..	2	3	..	3	..	3	2	..	..	1	2	8	19	7	..
Shoreditch .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	2	..	..	..
Bethnal Green .....	2	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	5	..	3	..
Whitechapel .....	2	1	3	..	2	1	3	..	1	2	1	4	..	10	4	..	2
St. George's-in-the-East	..	4	4	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	2	2	..	9	4	3	..
Stepney .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..
Mile End Old Town ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	4	..	..	..
Poplar .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3	..	..	..
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	3	1	6	10	1	..	2	3	3	..	1	4	..	17	1	2	..
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	1	1	..
Lambeth:— { North ..	1	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	5	..	9	3	7	..
{ South ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	2	1	7
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	3	3	1	..	..
Clapham .....	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	18
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grove Lane .....	..	2	2	..	2	..	2	3	1	..	..	4	..	9	..	1	..
Peckham .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greenwich .....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	5	..	..	9	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	3	..	13	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	15	..
Total .....	24	20	57	101	2	22	16	40	48	23	7	17	95	236	132	82	156

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-sixth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Miss Erskine, the Hon. H. Walpole, Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Fyers, Messrs. W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The draft Suggestions to the parents of Blind Children furnished by Mr. Buckle, and the list of employments prepared by Mr. Martin Tait, were brought up in proof and ordered to be sent to all members of the Committee who had attended a meeting, and to any others who might wish to see them.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head III.:—‘What new agencies, if any, are required?’

It was resolved—

‘That, in view of experience in the United States, and in order that more interest may be felt by employers in teaching them thoroughly, it is expedient to encourage, under suitable conditions, the employment of the Blind as apprentices or learners in ordinary workshops and manufactories.’

It was also resolved, on Mr. Tait's motion—

‘That the Committee are of opinion that the practice in Saxony, whereby Institutions for the Blind adopt a system of placing out their pupils in trades and occupations throughout the country, supplying them with raw material at cost price when desired, and exercising care and supervision over their career, is deserving of the best consideration of managers of similar institutions in this country.’



## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

WHITECHAPEL AND ST. GEORGE'S EAST.—The work of the Society in these two districts (says the *East London Observer*) having so greatly increased during the past winter, a separate Committee has been formed for each in lieu of the one joint committee which has hitherto had charge of both Poor Law divisions. During the six months ending March 31st, when the separation was made, the joint Committee had before them 364 cases, which, after careful investigation, were dealt with in the following manner:—170 were dismissed—70 as not requiring relief, 42 as undeserving, and 58 as being cases suitable only for Poor Law treatment, or otherwise ineligible for charitable relief; 167 were assisted—59 by reference to local charitable agencies, 43 by private persons, and 14 by the Poor Law Guardians at the instance of the Committee; whilst 51 were helped directly by Committee, by grants, loans, employment, or letters for hospitals or convalescent institutions; 23 were simply reported on to persons asking for enquiries, and 4 were placed on the Labour Register. The Whitechapel Committee report that since the division they have dealt with 72 cases. The following may be mentioned as illustrating very well the working of the Society, and explaining how it is that so many cases are effectually helped, although the amount appearing in the balance-sheet as expended in 'grants' is so very small. A respectable woman had been reduced to a condition of great distress by the failure of her husband's health. She did not herself apply to the Society, being one of those who strive rather to conceal than to parade their poverty, but her case was mentioned to the Committee by a missionary. Being rather a good dressmaker, she had been trying to make a living for the family (there were three young children) by her needle, but the task was more than she could accomplish. The Committee, with the co-operation of the clergyman and Dissenting Minister, organised relief to the amount of £7, with which a sewing-machine was obtained, and the family assisted to remove to their native place in the country, where it is hoped the husband's health may improve. But the money was not granted out of the Committee's own funds, and the expenditure will not appear in the balance-sheet. In another case a weekly allowance was obtained for an aged man of good character, who was thereby saved from going to the workhouse. Several old employers who respected him had been in the habit of helping him in a casual way, but on the Committee's representation gladly fell in with proposed arrangements for giving relief in a more regular and satisfactory manner. To the 2s. 6d. weekly premised by them the Committee obtained the addition of 1s. 6d., which, with what the old man can himself earn, will enable him to live pretty comfortably. Thus organisation regulates but does not check the flow of private benevolence; and though the time and trouble involved in dealing with a case in this way are considerable, the Committee believe that the results justify the expenditure. The most interesting, perhaps, of all the cases, however, was that of a little girl whose mother, a degraded, vagrant woman, applied at the office for relief. For years the two had wandered about London and the surrounding country, sleeping in lodging-houses, casual wards, or night refuges. The Committee refused to grant the woman the money relief she sought; which would simply have encouraged her in her wretched mode of life, but anxious to save the child from following a similar course, took charge of her, of course with the mother's consent, and sent her to the English Lake District, where, 'boarded out' with kind foster-parents, and under the watchful care of a committee of ladies, she has already lost the premature old look that she had at first, is very happy, and seems likely to do well in every way. The cost of her maintenance, £12 annually, is defrayed by private persons. The Committee would be glad to transplant another child in a similar way, and any who would like to assist them to do so can learn particulars of the case by sending a line to the Secretary, at the Office, 194 Commercial Road.

WANDSWORTH AND CLAPHAM UNION.—The following rules on the subject of out-relief were adopted by the Guardians of this Union, on the motion of Mr. J. E. Martin, at their meeting on the 17th inst.:—

1. That a list of the names of all persons who have been in receipt of out-relief for more than three months be printed every six months, and that a copy of such be furnished to each Guardian, and to any ratepayer applying for it.

2. That the following notice be printed:—

I. Out-door relief will in future be regarded as exceptional, to be granted in certain instances to persons of proved respectability, whose destitution has arisen from no fault of their own.

II. Persons whose destitution is the result of intemperance and have claim only to be relieved with their families inside the workhouse.

III. An applicant for relief will have to satisfy the Guardians that when he was able to work he made every reasonable effort, by thrift and economy, to provide against times of sickness and adversity. Should the applicant fail to make this clear, out-door relief may be refused, and he with his family may be required to enter the workhouse.

3. No able-bodied widow having less than two children dependent on her shall be eligible for out-door relief, except during the first six months of her widowhood.

4. In all cases of able-bodied widows with more than one child the alternative of taking one or more of the children into the district school of the union in preference to giving out-door relief should be taken into consideration.

5. No woman deserted by her husband shall be eligible for out-door relief, except during the period required for making inquiries into facts of the desertion; after permanent desertion has been substantiated, she is to be treated as an ordinary widow.

6. When application is made by able-bodied persons for out-relief on the ground of being 'out of work,' or of illness, the relief, if not given in the stone-yard, should only be given by way of loan.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of June 1875 was 33,029, and 52,967 received out-door relief, making a total of 85,996. This was a decrease of 554 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,522, 16,715, and 20,776 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 456. This was a decrease of 14 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 159 on the corresponding day of last year.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND THE CAUSES OF PAUPERISM.—We take the following extract from the *Western Daily Press* of Feb. 26, 1869, from an old paper headed 'Memo. on the Poor Law Minute of Nov. 20.' The good advice given by Mr. Bright is to some extent being acted on:—'The uncomfortable feeling we all have in connection with an increasing poor-rate, Mr. Bright would utilise by having us all consider why this pauperism should exist? We cannot diminish the poor-rate unless we can diminish the pauperism which cries out for it. Mr. Bright saw no reason why Chambers of Commerce in commercial or manufacturing towns should eschew such a question as that—the why of pauperism. He thought that the great employers of labour, who come daily and hourly into contact with the labouring classes, and who knew intimately from observation the many evils of improvidence and pauperism, ought to discuss such matters in their local legislatures, which are the local creators of opinion, and ultimately the creators of opinion in Parliament. By discussing questions such as pauperism with the same exhaustiveness as the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, in 1840, discussed the question of the Corn Laws, our commercial chambers would truly become the saviours of their country.' The following extracts from the same Paper can hardly have attention called to them too often:—'It appears to me that charity requires the sternest labour and the most anxious thought; that, in short, it is one of the most difficult things in the world (*Sir Arthur Helps*).—'Beveridge says: "In distributing to the poor, my hand of charity must either be guided by the eye of understanding, where, when, and how much to give; or else I may at the same time not only offend God, but wrong my neighbour and myself too."—*Beveridge's Private Thoughts*, p. 219. 'Whatever you pay a man to do, that he will do: if you pay him to work, he will work, and if you pay him to beg, he will beg.'—*Whately's Life*, Vol. II. p. 114.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

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BY THE

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**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
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The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES TO DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

District Committees which expect to require assistance from the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council before October are to send in their applications.

Forms of Financial Statement to accompany applications can be obtained from the Central Office.

District Committees are recommended to pass a resolution to the following effect, in order that they may be able to show it to the Judge of any County Court who may consider it requisite to see the authority under which a person is sued:—

‘That all loans granted by this Committee be made by and for this Committee in the name of ———, a member of this Committee.’

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, W. W. Moore, Esq., Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Rev. A. G. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; Mrs. Barnett, *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End Old Town*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; E. Hyde, Esq., *Camberwell*; A. Annesley, Esq., *Lewisham*; Capt. G. H. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Major-General Bainbrigge, G. Blount, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 29. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from the St. George's Committee, stating that a firm of millowners in the West Riding of Yorkshire

had informed them that they had a vacancy for a respectable family, with children between eight and fifteen, or for a few orphans between nine and fifteen. The Committee had no suitable persons on their books, and therefore desired to make the offer known.

THE LATE MR. R. J. DONOVAN.

The Secretary announced the death of Mr. R. J. Donovan, one of the Honorary Secretaries of the Bethnal Green Committee.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen said that there was no one in the East of London to whom the Society was more indebted than to Mr. Donovan. He felt his loss very greatly, and believed that he would be missed more and more. When he saw any way of doing good his brain, his pen, and his energies were always ready. He was one of nature's gentlemen. He would not be easily forgotten in East London.

Mr. A. H. Hill referred to the readiness Mr. Donovan had shown to assist Mr. Edward Denison, and subsequently Mr. Edmund Hollond, when they went to live at the East End.

The Secretary was instructed to convey to the Bethnal Green Committee an expression of the sincere regret of the Council at the death of Mr. Donovan, and their sense of the loss the Committee had sustained.

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The Secretary said that he had received a letter from the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, mentioning that some applicants for out-patient relief, who had been sent to a District Office to have their statements verified, had come again saying that they had been told that their letters would be sent to the hospital for them. If they had been so told the Hon. Secretary, or agent, must have omitted to notice the statement on the letter, to the effect that it was to be called for at the District Office at such time as the officer in attendance might indicate.

Mr. Lavers Smith asked whether District Committees were at liberty to issue a special appeal to residents in the District for a fund expressly for the purpose of relieving distress which could not otherwise be provided for.

The Chairman said that the St. Marylebone Committee had such a fund, and had issued a special appeal for it in the early days of the Society. Such action should, however, be taken with great caution.

The Organising Secretary thought that any such appeal should state clearly that relief was only a secondary object of the Society.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen deprecated any extension of the relief work of the Society, and mentioned that he and two neighbouring clergymen had recently taken down 2,000 people to spend the day at Southend without asking any outsider for a penny. All paid for themselves.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that







## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**ISLINGTON.—Hospital Case.**—This Committee has had to inquire into the circumstances of an applicant for the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street. She stated at the hospital that her husband's earnings were 20s. weekly. On inquiry it was found that his wages were 36s. weekly. They have nine children, the eldest (19) was earning 12s.; the four next younger were apprentices receiving a few shillings, say 10s., between them; their several ages 17, 15, 14, and 11. They rent a six-roomed house, where they have lived fourteen years, the rent being £28; they let off two rooms at 6s. 6d. per week, and the husband is a member of two clubs.

**POPLAR.—Conference with Guardians.**—At the request of this Committee Mr. Howgrave Graham attended, on June 18, a meeting of the Poplar Board of Guardians, for the purpose of inducing closer co-operation between the Board and the Committee. He stated, at length, the principles and mode of operation of the Committee, and explained that while in many instances the Society was able, by giving relief of a kind and amount not obtainable from Boards of Guardians, to remove, or to keep, from the out-relief list a considerable number of cases, yet it was desirous of carefully avoiding anything like usurpation of the functions of the Poor Law, or supplementing the relief it affords. Mr. Howgrave Graham illustrated the action of the Committee by cases which had been dealt with by them, explained that the relieving officers had always supplied information to the charity agent, and invited members of the Board to attend the Committee meetings. The Chairman said that six or seven years ago a similar proposal was accepted by the Guardians, thinking that some good might result. They took very great trouble to carry out the ideas of a local committee, and went to the expense of preparing maps and books, which were never used; and, upon remonstrating with the Committee, the Guardians were met with a retort to the effect that they chose to administer relief in their own way. The minute-book of the Committee in question was produced, and Mr. Howgrave Graham said that it could not have been connected with the Charity Organisation Society. The Clerk drew attention to the fact that, at their last meeting, the Committee had adjourned *sine die*. Some questions having been asked by members of the Board, and replied to by Mr. Howgrave Graham, the Chairman said, after some discussion, that he was disposed to look favourably upon the suggested co-operation, as he believed it would be advantageous to both the Guardians and the Committee, but he suggested that full proposals should be submitted by the Committee, in writing, for the Board's consideration and decision. Mr. Howgrave Graham undertook to lay the matter before the Poplar Committee, who will consider it at a special meeting to be held at their office this day, at four P.M. It may be added that the Committee referred to was not in any way connected with the Charity Organisation Society.

## REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the Poplar Committee, 1874.

Report of Sub-Committee on Out-patients at the Westminster Hospital, dated May 25, 1875.

First Annual Report of the St. George's (Bristol) Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

**POOR LAW CONFERENCE.**—The first Annual Conference of Metropolitan Poor Law Guardians is to be held in the Rooms of the Social Science Association, 1 Adam Street, Adelphi, on Monday the 12th inst., at 11 a.m., the Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., in the chair. A Paper on the Law of Settlement and Removal will be read by Mr. William Vallance, and a Paper on Out-door Relief by the Rev. S. A. Barnett. The Poor Law Conferences held at the same place in December 1874 and previous years were intended for representatives appointed by the Poor Law Conferences in different parts of England; the Metropolitan Guardians have not hitherto held an Annual Conference.

**WANDSWORTH AND CLAPHAM UNION.**—In the paragraph under this heading last week it should have been stated that the notice with reference to conditions of out-relief was to be 'posted on the workhouse doors and relief offices,' and the second clause of the notice should have run as follows:—'Persons whose destitution is the result of intemperance and improvidence have claim only to be relieved with their families inside the workhouse.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of June 1875 was 32,817, and 52,596 received out-door relief, making a total of 85,413. This was a decrease of 583 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,623, 16,477, and 21,262 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 572. This was an increase of 116 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 76 on the corresponding day of last year.

**SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND PERSONAL WORK IN LIVERPOOL.**—In a paragraph headed 'The Elberfeld System in Liverpool,' the *Times* announces that on Monday, the 21st inst., an influentially attended and thoroughly representative meeting for the inauguration of a social movement originated by the Liverpool Town Clerk, Mr. Joseph Rayner, was held at Waterloo, near Liverpool. The object of the scheme is to induce a number of the wealthy residents of such suburbs of Liverpool as Waterloo to take under their especial charge certain sections of the overcrowded and squalid portions of Liverpool, with the view of promoting the sanitary improvement of the districts. The Town Clerk, in explaining his scheme, said that if, by any means, the more fortunate could be induced, instead of, or in addition to, giving money, to devote a portion of their time and thought to personal intercourse with the poor, more would be done towards their elevation and improvement than by any amount of almsgiving or charity distributed in the usual way. It would, however, be hopeless to expect persons residing at a distance to devote much time to visiting, and the only feasible plan of doing good in this way on a moderately large scale was to adopt the Elberfeld system of administering poor relief by voluntary visitors. If the upper and middle classes in any well-to-do part of the town or suburbs would unite together and allow their district to be affiliated to any town district inhabited almost exclusively by the labouring classes, much good might be done. Any such association would of necessity be unsectarian, and the greatest care would be requisite to avoid proselytising and offending religious susceptibilities. The main object would be to improve the sanitary condition of the dwellings of the labouring classes, to endeavour to make their homes more healthy, cleanly, and attractive, and to afford them such sympathy and assistance in time of sickness and distress as might be rendered to them by those more happily situated without affecting their independence. With these objects might also be conveniently combined the encouragement of frugal habits by the establishment of a penny savings bank, by the collection of deposits for the district Provident Society; and eventually, if visitors were able to secure the confidence of the poor, such an association might become an invaluable connection and means of communication between them and the Guardians of the Poor, the Central Relief Society, and the School Board. The really deserving poor would be elevated and helped, and those who did not require or were not entitled to assistance would be prevented from imposing on the Poor Law authorities or the charities. It appeared certain that the most effectual means of elevating and improving the class to be visited was by becoming their landlords, and it was to be hoped that a considerable number of blocks of property might eventually be brought under the influence of systematic visiting. It would doubtless take a very long time to make a perceptible improvement in the condition of the lowest class in our large towns; but there was reason to hope that by a combination of these several modes of action something might be done for the amelioration of the condition of those upon whom we were all more or less dependent, but whom we were apt to overlook and forget. In his opinion it would be quite impossible for any one association satisfactorily to undertake any scheme for the sanitary improvement of the whole town, and in any such effort the machinery would break down from the very magnitude of the undertaking. This difficulty might, however, be easily avoided; and what had been suggested was that a well-defined district in the town, containing 15,000 to 20,000 inhabitants, should be taken; that a book of reference, showing names and addresses of each owner of property and the assessable value of the houses, should be prepared; a careful survey of the district made, and periodically repeated by small inspection sub-committees, and the attention of the authorities and the owners of property called to the most apparent insanitary conditions. Such portion of the district as the number of visitors may be sufficient to undertake should then be divided into sub-districts and assigned to the visitors, who, if the funds of the association enabled them to employ a paid nurse, would avail themselves of her assistance in visiting and assisting the sick. An arrangement should be made with the registrar of deaths to send duplicates of the returns to the medical officer of health to the association, with the name of the medical attendant, certifying the cause of death in each case. An arrangement should also be made with the medical attendants to give periodical reports, with suggestions derived from their experience. In the event of the Corporation undertaking any improvements under the Sanitary Amendment Act of 1864, the Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Bill, or any street improvements, it would be the duty of the Secretary to give their officers all the information in his possession.

**THE LABOUR NEWS, Price One Penny.**—A Weekly Organ of information on the condition and requirements of the Labour Market in town and country. Edited by ALSAGER HAY HILL. Correspondence is requested from all parts.—Offices: 1 Long Acre, London, W.

Post-free One quarter, 1s. 9d.; a Year, 6s. 6d.



THE following Books and Pamphlets, amongst others, are kept at the Central Office of the Charity Organisation Society for the use of Members of District Committees and persons interested in charitable work. The Secretaries are authorised to lend them at their discretion :—

## CHARITY.

The Annual Reports of most of the Metropolitan and National Charities.  
Sampson Low's Charities of London. Fry's London Charities.  
List of Charity Organisation, Mendicity, and kindred Societies throughout Great Britain and Ireland, and Reports of same.  
A Guide to Institutions for the Blind, by Col. Mansfield Turner and W. Harris, Esq.  
List of Metropolitan Trade Benefit Societies.  
Guide to the Charities of Paris.  
Reports of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction.  
Reports (complete) of the Boston (U.S.) Provident Association, Overseers of the Poor, and Directors of Public Institutions, and of the Massachusetts Board of Charities.

## POOR LAW, &amp;c.

Glen's Poor-law Statutes in force.  
Glen's Consolidated Poor-law Orders.  
Digests of Statutes relating to Urban and Rural Sanitary Authorities.

## PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS, REPORTS, &amp;c.

Endowed Charities of Middlesex, Surrey, and Cities of London and Westminster.  
Reports of the Poor Law Commissioners and the Poor Law and Local Government Boards; complete set, 1834 to 1874.  
Poor Laws in Foreign Countries, with Introductory Remarks, by Andrew Doyle, Esq.  
Reports on Vagrancy, 1830, 1848, 1866.  
Reports :—Industrial Schools; Emigration Commissioners; Royal Sanitary Commission, 1871; Commissioners of Police for the Metropolis; Royal Commission on Friendly Societies, 1872 and 1874.  
Reports from H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Agents abroad respecting the Condition of the Industrial Classes in Foreign Countries.  
The Charity Commissioners' General Digest of Endowed Charities in Counties and Cities.  
Census of England and Wales, 1871.  
Recent Acts of Parliament bearing on Charity and Poor Law.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Christian and Civic Economy of Large Towns. By Thomas Chalmers, D.D.  
Count Rumford's Essays.  
London Labour and the London Poor. By Henry Mayhew.  
London Pauperism amongst Jews and Christians. By Dr. Stallard.  
The Claims of Labour. By Sir Arthur Helps.  
Social Duties in Relation to the Organisation of Works of Benevolence. By a Man of Business.  
Pauperism and the Poor Laws. Lectures issued by the Chalmers Association.  
London: its Growth, Charitable Agencies, and Wants. By C. B. P. Bosanquet.  
The Terrible Sights of London. By Thomas Archer.  
The Rookeries of London. By Rev. T. Beames.  
Ragged London in 1861. By John Hollingshead.  
Ragged Homes and How to Mend Them. By Mrs. Bayly.  
East and West. Edited by the Countess Spencer.  
Dwellings of the Labouring Classes. By Henry Roberts.  
The Homes of the Working Classes. By James Holc.  
Work and Wages. By Thomas Brassey, M.P.  
Report of the Convocation of Canterbury on Intemperance.  
Letters &c. of Edward Denison. Edited by Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart.  
Pauperism, its Causes and Remedies. By Professor Fawcett, M.P.  
Essays on Poor Relief in different parts of Europe. Edited by A. Emminghaus. Translation revised by E. B. Eastwick, C.B.  
The Romance of Charity. By John de Liefde.  
Need of a Settled Policy in Times of Distress. By W. T. McCullagh Torrens, M.P.  
History of the Cotton Famine. By R. Arthur Arnold.  
Public Health. A Popular Introduction to Sanitary Science. By W. A. Guy, M.D.  
My Life, and What shall I Do with It? By an Old Maid.  
Lending a Hand. Confessions of an Old Almsgiver.  
Our New Masters. By Thomas Wright, 'The Journeyman Engineer.'  
The Gaol Cradle; who rocks it?  
Boarding Out and Pauper Schools. By Menella B. Smedley.

The Original. By the late Thomas Walker. Edited, with additions, by Dr. Guy, F.R.S.  
The Blind of London. By Edmund C. Johnson.  
How the Blind Read. By Edmund C. Johnson.  
Blindness and the Blind. By W. Hanks Levy.  
Light for the Blind. By W. Moon, LL.D.  
Blindness: the Sense Denied and Lost. By Thomas Bull, M.D.  
The Education and Employment of the Blind. By T. R. Armitage, M.D.  
Management and Education of the Blind. By J. G. Knie.  
Der erste Europäischer Blinden-Lehrer-Congress in Wien. 1873.

## DIRECTORIES.

Post Office, City of London and Suburban.  
Index of the Streets in the Metropolis and their Parishes.  
Oliver and Boyd's New Edinburgh Almanac.  
Thom's Irish Almanac and Official Directory.  
The Local Government Directory, and numerous County and Professional Directories.

## MAPS.

Civitas Londinum. Facsimile of Map of London, made by Ralph Agas, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.  
Maps showing the Boundaries of the Metropolitan Poor Law and Police Divisions and most of the Ecclesiastical Districts.

## THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION

SOCIETY desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co's., 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

## ANNUAL REPORTS of the DISTRICT COMMITTEES

for 1874, bound up with the SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COUNCIL, price 2s. 6d., post free 3s., can be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

## THE SANITARY RECORD:

*A Journal of Public Health.*

Every Saturday, price 4d. A Weekly Journal of the Progress of Hygiene of Cities, Towns, Rural Districts, Mines, Factories, and Habitations; the Food, Water, Gas Supply, and Drainage of Towns and Rural Districts; the Vital Statistics of Population; the Influence on Health of Trades and Occupations; and the Operation of Acts bearing upon Public Health.

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SMITH, ELDER, & CO., 15 Waterloo Place, S.W., and all Booksellers and Newsagents.

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'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d. s. d.

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Any Subscriber changing his address or not receiving his copy is requested to communicate with the Secretary, 15 Buckingham Street, W.C.



# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 145.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 7, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

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The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

Affiliated Associations which have not yet sent in their returns for the last quarter to the Central Office, are requested to forward them as early as possible, for insertion in next Wednesday's Reporter.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. F. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; Lord William Compton, W. W. Moore, Esq., *St. George's*; Henry Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; Mrs. Barnett, E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; Rev. R. J. Elliot, *Poplar*; C. E. Machen, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; E. Hyde, Esq., T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; G. Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Capt. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Dr. Hawksley, T. J. Phillips-Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*. Allerdale Grainger, Esq., *Visitor*.

The Secretary reported that Mr. T. B. Spencer and Mr. C. S. Loch had consented to act as Hon. Secretaries of the Islington Committee, *vice* Mr. Vizard, and that the Rev. S. A. Barnett had been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Whitechapel Committee.

Mr. Edgcombe asked leave to mention that a figure had slipped out of its place in the monthly returns from District Committees which appeared in the *Times* of Thursday—the Kensington Committee had dealt with 34, not 3, vagrants.

### MR. PEEK'S GIFT.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen asked whether any cases had

been decided under the arrangement with Mr. Peek. Several members said that cases were before their Committees.

The Secretary explained, in answer to questions, that to constitute a case a School Board case, in Mr. Peek's sense, it was necessary that it should be sent by a Divisional Committee of the School Board, but not that it should be a case in which boots or clothes were required. Mr. Peek's contribution was not necessarily to be devoted to reimbursing Committees the exact amount expended in relation to such cases, but was to be granted out at the discretion of the Council, regard being had to the degree of co-operation with the School Board, and the expense thereby incurred.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending June 26 the receipts had been £16. 7s. 6d. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £539. 1s. 10d. and £165. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That they were of opinion that the Special Committee on Idiot Institutions, which it was proposed to form, should not meet until the next Session of Parliament was commencing.

And that they were about to send out the circular, authorised some time previously, to Boards of Guardians throughout the country.

Sir Charles Trevelyan said that he thought it was expedient that the same course should be taken with regard to the Committee on Idiot Institutions as was taken with regard to the Committee on Dwellings, and that it should meet whilst Parliament was sitting.

The Report was adopted.

### INQUIRIES ABROAD.

Sir Alexander Gordon moved the adoption of the recommendation of the Administrative Committee on this subject. Several foreign cases had been inquired into lately, though the Society had never formally undertaken such inquiries. He had no objection to the addition of a clause suggested by Lord William Compton, reserving discretion to the Administrative Committee; the recommendation would then run:—

That the inquiries of the Society should not extend to foreign countries, except as regards places where the Society have corresponding Associations to which the application can be referred, unless the sanction of the Administrative Committee has been previously obtained.

Lord William Compton said he had suggested the addition because he objected to a hard and fast line; there should be power to pursue an inquiry if there were sufficient means.

After some discussion, the recommendation as amended was adopted.

### POOR-LAW RELIEF.

Mr. A. H. Hill asked leave to modify his resolution on this subject, in accordance with a suggestion which he had received from Lord Lichfield, so far as to substitute 'to facilitate the proper application of the law,' for 'to promote a more efficient administration of the law.' It would then read:—



That, in the opinion of this Council, the principles of the Charity Organisation Society cannot be fully and effectually applied pending the stricter administration of the Poor Law, more particularly in reference to the question of out-door relief, and that the Committees of this Society be recommended to take every means in their power to facilitate the proper application of the law.

The Society had now been working side by side with the Poor Law for some years, and had always hoped to bring about a clear division of cases with it. He learnt, however, that some Committees not unfrequently supplemented parish relief, and relief was given in such small amounts and so capriciously under the present mode of administration, that it was hard to abstain from this. The Society had learnt, too, how hard it was permanently to remove any who had had the fatal taste of parish relief. It was the duty of the Society, under these circumstances, to urge closer adherence to the Act of 1834. Then, as to the imperfection of the inquiries made. The Relieving Officers admitted that their numbers were so insufficient as to make it impossible for them to inquire properly. He could not admit that because there had been a reduction in pauperism no more should be done. The reduction was in great measure due to the Act of 1834, and the same line should be adhered to. The law of settlement and the laws affecting vagrants needed improvement. As to the latter, the public should be satisfied that a destitute person would receive absolute necessities at any hour of the day. This would take away all excuse for begging. He was satisfied that independence had been so sapped by the operation of the Poor Law, that all social reforms were impossible till this was improved.

Mr. Edgcombe must, as a guardian, express his concurrence in all Mr. Hill had said. Investigation was necessarily nugatory, from the size of the Relieving Officers' districts. The Poor Law was, to his thinking, the largest and most mischievous relief agency in London.

Mr. Lavers Smith would move as an amendment the insertion of the words, 'while recognising the inexpediency of limiting Poor Law relief entirely to the workhouse.' He wished to make it clear that the Council was not committing itself to any extreme opinions.

Dr. Hawksley suggested the addition of the words 'at present' to the amendment; the Society was not yet sufficiently developed to give the Poor Law the assistance which it might some day be able to give it.

Miss Octavia Hill suggested that the subject ought to be referred to a Committee. She understood that an inquiry had recently been made in an East London Union into the condition of a number of persons from whom parish out-relief had been taken, and that a large proportion were found to be doing as well or better than when they had it.

Sir Charles Trevelyan agreed that the Poor Law was the great obstacle to the formation of provident habits, and to the free circulation of labour. But the resolution was inadequate; it did not point out how the Society's system was to be brought to bear on the evil.

Mr. Peto thought that the resolution might do some good, but that a Committee would do more good. More than 42 per cent. of the total expenditure on the poor was out-relief, against 20 per cent. in-relief.

The Secretary submitted that if a Committee was required to consider the subject in all its bearings, this should originate with Guardians. The Conferences of Guardians were now well organised, and could easily form such a Committee. If the object were to consider what the Society could do to assist Boards of Guardians, he would suggest a reference to the Sub-Committee on Visits to Offices, which would, he believed, report in October, and would, no doubt, in any case allude to this important part of the work of the District Committees.

It was ultimately moved by the Rev. W. H. Langhorne, and agreed, that it be referred to the Administrative Committee to consider and report upon the best means of carrying out the objects of Mr. A. H. Hill's resolution.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, July 3, 1875:—*Donations*: Miss M. A. C. Prince, £1. 1s.; Miss F. A. Hoare, £2. 2s.; Hon. Mrs. Swinton, £1; W. Needham, Esq., £1. *Quarterly*: Hon. W. Warren-Vernon, £5. *Annual*: Horace Broke, Esq., £2. 2s.; W. Fuller, Esq., £2. 2s.; Stephen Fuller, Esq., £10.; A. Oakes, Esq. (per J. Hornsby Wright, Esq.), £1. 1s.; G. W. Bell, Esq. (1874 and 1875), £2. 2s.; J. Elliot, Esq., £1. 1s.; W. Bevan, Esq., £2.; J. Spencer Phillips, Esq., £1. 1s.

The following business stands for Monday, July 12:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee: That a grant be made to the Bethnal Green Committee.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as		Class II. Recommended to		Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.				
Kensington .....	4	2	7	13	1	..	..	..	3	17	6	3
Fulham .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	3	2	3
Paddington .....	..	3	1	4	..	3	..	..	12	19	8	6
Chelsea .....	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	6	11	3
St. George's:—												
St. George's Division.	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	23	13	4
Westminster do.	1	2	2	5	1	4	2	7	6	2	1	..
Westminster:—												
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5
St. Marylebone .....	1	..	6	7	..	2	8	10	..	18	7	11
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	1	1	2	..	6	..	6	..	8	..	2
South St. Pancras .....	2	3	2	7	..	8	1	9	..	17	3	6
Islington .....	5	..	2	7	..	9	2	11	..	18	..	2
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	2	2	4	..	4	..	4	2	8	..	5
Strand .....	..	3	3	..	4	..	4	..	1	8	6	12
Holborn .....	1	1	1	3	1	..	1	2	..	5	15	8
City .....	1	..	2	3	1	2	..	3	..	7	33	23
Shoreditch .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	5
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	2	5	..	1	1	..	1	7	3	4
Whitechapel .....	..	1	2	3	..	2	1	3	1	7	2	1
St. George's-in-the-East	1	..	1	..	2	1	3	..	1	5	..	..
Stepney .....	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	11	1
Mile End Old Town ..	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	2	4	6	..
Poplar .....	1	1	2	..	2	..	2	..	1	5	..	4
*St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	3	1	6	10	1	1	1	3	4	19	5	2
*St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lambeth:—												
North ..	1	1	2	4	1	..	..	1	2	1	..	..
South ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	2
Wandsworth & Putney	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	5	3	18
Battersea .....	..	1	2	3	..	1	1	1	1	6	..	3
Clapham .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	3	1
Camberwell:—												
Grove Lane .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	..
Greenwich .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	4
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	3	..	1
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Total .....	29	22	52	103	6	53	21	80	37	9	7	11
									64	247	142	120
												119

\* No return received from these Committees at time of going to press.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of June 1875 was 32,899, and 52,334 received out-door relief, making a total of 85,233. This was a decrease of 180 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,179, 16,169, and 20,893 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 511. This was a decrease of 61 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 173 on the corresponding day of last year.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-eighth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), the Hon. H. Walpole, Col. Fyers, Col. Mansfield Turner, Messrs. T. Clarko, D. Conolly, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, W. M. Wilkinson, Messrs. Comyn, Hutchinson, and Gilbert Wood, Visitors, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee took Head V. into consideration:—"What provision at present exists for the support of the Blind not able to maintain themselves by their own industry, and what improvements, if any, are desirable in the system on which funds for this purpose are administered?"

A statement by Mr. Clarke with reference to the Christian Blind Relief Society was read, showing that the Society granted pensions of 2s. 6d. per week or 5s. per month to needy blind persons of good moral character, in and out of London, without restrictions as to age or religious qualification.

It was resolved on Mr. Harris' motion—

"That the Committee recommend that the name and address of each person helped should be inserted in the Annual Report of the Institution or Charity by which he or she is being assisted."

**CONFESSIONS OF A VAGRANT.**—The following letter is from the same writer as a letter printed in the *Reporter* for May 29th, 1872. Brine is about 65 years of age, and was educated at the Charity school of Sherborne, and apprenticed to a butcher in that town. He has made a livelihood as a mendicant during the greatest part of his life; he writes a good hand, and is a man of considerable attainments. In the Poor Law Report on vagrancy, issued in the year 1848, a list of fourteen convictions, between the years 1831 and 1847, will be found registered against him. In the letter referred to Brine confessed to having been in gaol more than one hundred times. He is at present an inmate of the Sherborne workhouse:—

"Sherborne Workhouse: April 12th, 1875.

"Honoured Sir,—In compliance with your request, I will now endeavour to describe to you some forms of "lurk,"\* in which I myself have been an actor. I have found that the "bereavement lurk" is a lucrative one—(i.e.) the pretended loss of a wife, leaving me with a young and helpless family to support. I practised the following scheme for the first time in Manchester:—I obtained three children, two girls and a boy, between the ages of five and ten years, of their parents, at a common "padding ken"† in Blakeley Street (now Charter Street) for three shillings, to "stand pad" with me, from seven o'clock until twelve p.m. on a Saturday. I agreed to give the children plenty to eat before starting, and some pence for themselves when we returned; so after the children had been well washed and clean pinafores put on them, and had been plentifully regaled with bread and butter and tea, and I had taught them their lesson (which was a very short one); and I had provided a placard to place on each of their breasts, with the word "Motherless" written in large letters upon it, we sallied forth on our expedition, and took up our position at one of the entrances to Shudehill Market, and there "stood pad"—(i.e.) stood with the children by me, and did not speak unless I was spoken to. I had frequently to answer questions as to how long the wife had been dead, &c., but was not otherwise interfered with. In five hours I had more than 30s. given me in silver and copper. I should think I drank at least a shilling's worth of rum during the time; besides buying some cakes &c. for the children, and giving them fourpence each for themselves, I had £1. 8s. odd for myself.

"At another time I tried the same game at Sunderland, with two children (girls), but one of them was too old for me. I should think she was between eleven and twelve, and in the midst of my performance she became refractory, when I gave her a slight slap on the shoulders as a correction, but this inflamed her Irish blood to fury. She called me "rogue, rascal, impostor," &c. (she told the truth). She said her father was dead, and that I was not her father; that I had paid her mother half-a-crown for herself and sister for the evening, and that her mother was getting drunk with the money. This was about nine o'clock, when I was taking money fast; and I was compelled to "pitch the crack" (discontinue the game) and to "make tracks" the same evening towards Durham, with only seven or eight shillings, which I fully expected to have doubled, and perhaps trebled.

"Another lurk I tried was the cripples', at Holywell, Flintshire, N.W., where is a famous spring called St. Winifred's Well. Tradition says that the Saint was beheaded on a hill above the spring, where St. Winifred's Church now stands; and that the head, after decapitation, rolled to the

\* A slang expression among thieves and begging-letter impostors, derived from the Welsh *llerc*, a fit of loitering.—C.J.R.T.

† Lodging-house; literally, a house for travellers on foot, from the Anglo-Saxon *pad*, a footpath, and the Persian *khân*, a house.—C.J.R.T.

bottom of the hill, and where it stopped the well sprung up. Be this as it may, many people—it is said—have derived great benefit from the water, by drinking it, and from bathing in it. It is said to be infallible in relief of rheumatics, neuralgia, sciatica, &c. So I took it into my head to simulate rheumatism for a time; so one day I said to the woman who was with me, "Let us go and see what we can do at Holywell." At this time we were at Rhyl. She consented, and after maturing our plans, the next day we started to Holywell, where we took a small furnished room upstairs, in a back room at a cobbler's, for 3s. a week. We told them we were come from the West of England for the benefit of the celebrated waters, as we were both suffering from rheumatic pains, and had been advised to try whether the spring would do us any good. So having paid a week's rent in advance, the next day we commenced operations. We soon found out the names and residences of the most benevolent persons, and succeeded beyond our expectations.

"The following morning we bathed at the spring. A man is kept there to attend males, and a female attends females. I went there, supported on two sticks, but I subsequently got a crutch. I pretended to be much worse than my wife (?). She was afflicted in the arms; I in the legs. We continued this game for a few days, and then ladies came to see us at our lodgings, and never leaving without a donation. Some days we got as much as 10s. a day, besides wine, porter, mutton, cakes, &c., and books to read. I carried on this game for five weeks, living on the fat of the land, till one unfortunate day I sent my wife for a half-pint of rum, which so exhilarated us that we got another; after which I insisted on having a dance together in the room, which through our operations and jumps brought down part of the plaster of the ceiling underneath us, on the table where the cobbler and his wife were at tea. It was an old rickety house, and the man told me afterwards that, hearing the rumpus overhead, he and his wife had gone upstairs and seen us dancing together for a quarter of an hour before the ceiling fell. When I got down stairs I found the room half full of the neighbours, to whom the cobbler and his wife had given the intelligence about the dancing cripples. This, together with the row about the damaged ceiling (it was a large piece of plaster; I should think it was 16 or 20 feet in circumference), made me resolve to "hook" it at once, for the news had spread like wildfire.

"I then hastily told my wife she would meet me at a certain place in Benjonson Street, Liverpool, and having given her some money, I started at once for Chester (17 miles), which place I reached within four hours, and the next day I reached Liverpool, where the woman found me two days after.

"There are many "lurks" which I have not now the time or space to dwell upon; neither have I time or opportunity just now to say much about pseudo-doctors; but another week, sir, if you please to forward me (per Mr. Jelfs) another stamped envelope, I will do my best for your information.

"I remain, Honoured Sir, with the greatest respect,

"Your unworthy servant,

"GEORGE ATKINS BRINE."

"P.S.—There are many remarks I should like to make respecting vagrancy. *Imprimis*, the motive-power must be stopped before the machinery can be brought to a stand-still. People who indiscriminately give alms are far more to blame than the recipients. Until this truth be widely known and acted upon, mendicity will flourish. This, and this alone, is the greatest obstacle that impedes your progress, although, I should say, not an insurmountable one.

"G. A. B."

The events chronicled in this letter happened about twenty years ago, and though there may be here and there embellishments of the truth, inquiry seems to show that the account given is substantially accurate.

**LIVERPOOL DISTRICT SANITARY ASSOCIATION.**—The first meeting of the Committee of this Association, says the *Liverpool Courier* of June 29, was held last night, at the Town Hall, Waterloo. Seven members attended, The Committee decided to adopt the Dale Street Registration District, which comprises Exchange and St. Paul's Wards—parts of Districts 7 and 10 of the Nursing Institution. The following is the estimate of the population and mortality for 1871–2–3–4:—

Year.	Population.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000
1871	23,913	985	41.1
1872	23,454	760	32.2
1873	22,995	735	31.9
1874	22,550	908	40.2

The average death-rate for this district during the last four years is 5.4 per 1,000 higher than for the whole borough. The Committee next proceeded to settle the rules, which were agreed to. The Committee considered the suggestions for visitors. After some discussion, a small Subcommittee was appointed to prepare a manual for visitors, with the assistance of the lady visitors of the Association. The hon. secretaries were authorised to obtain a map of the district, to subdivide it into sub-districts for visiting, each to contain about 100 families, and to arrange as to the engagement of an assistant nurse in the district.



**RELIEF IN AID OF WAGES.**—‘To that order of philanthropy which thinks and acts much more from impulse than from reason, the termination of the Marks case should be productive of feelings of unmixed gratification. This good woman was manifestly industrious, honest, and unfortunate. She was treated with that which ostensibly appeared to be harshness, very narrowly verging upon downright cruelty. She was subjected to a criminal prosecution, when, from the immediately philanthropic point of view, she should have been rewarded for her laborious perseverance and for the intensity of her maternal affections. Yet is there another kind of philanthropy of which the operation is rather remote than immediate, and which is prone to investigate causes before it too hastily deduces conclusions from events. To such thinkers—commonly called economists—the actual story of Mrs. Marks has been as puzzling a problem as that propounded in the clever fiction of “Ginx’s Baby.” Parliament, justice, the press, the School Board, the Local Government Board, and the public at large, have all been called upon to say what they thought about Mrs. Marks and her babies. The public have given direct and impulsive expression of their opinion on the subject by subscribing forty-three pounds for the benefit of the distressed needlewoman; but doubt, uncertainty, and to some extent dissatisfaction, may reign in the minds of some persons—dissatisfaction, not at the manner in which the case has, for the present, terminated, but at its having occurred at all. The poor woman—whose husband is sorely afflicted, and who cannot be too highly commended for her efforts to maintain herself and her children in respectability and independence—was earning, by working at her needle for something like twelve hours a day, a pittance amounting to a little under a pound a week. But this was insufficient to maintain her and her family. Keeping her respectability intact, she was forced to sacrifice a portion of her independence. She shuddered at the thought of going into the workhouse; but she was glad to accept weekly outdoor relief. Mrs. Marks was, therefore, to use plain language, an outdoor pauper; and this fact, which cannot be blinked or slurred over, is in itself a convincing and a shameful proof of the blundering confusion in which the whole question of the administration of the English Poor Law still remains. . . . Touching outdoor relief, it is scarcely possible to controvert the position that such aid is misapplied and abused, when it serves only to swell the wages of those who can work, who are willing to work, and who do work from morning until night, but who will never gain more than starvation wages so long as employers know that the ‘sweating’ to which their operatives are subjected will be partially compensated by the parish dole.’—*Daily Telegraph*.

**THE OXFORD CHARITY ORGANISATION ASSOCIATION ON TRAMPS.**—‘In the matter of tramps,’ says the last Report, ‘the operations of the Society have been confined during the past nine months almost entirely to the task of investigating the stories of such of them as have been brought under their notice. The result of these investigations has been only to confirm their belief in the correctness of the conclusion to which their previous inquiries had brought them, that it is not desirable that persons of this class should, as a rule, be relieved in any other way than through the workhouse. Almost every story sifted by them proved, upon investigation, to be absolutely fictitious. One thing, however, besides investigating their stories, the Society does for vagrants—it supplies them with bread to be eaten on the premises, and a considerable number of persons have been thus relieved during the past nine months. This supply of bread tickets (which can be obtained by all subscribers), seems to meet the one real grievance which the vagrant class has to urge—the difficulty of obtaining food between the time when they are discharged from one workhouse in the morning and admitted into another at night. In the few instances where, after investigation, the Committee have found help needed and likely to do good, they have given relief on a scale scarcely possible under the old system. Surprise has been expressed in some quarters that the Society has not been more successful in repressing begging altogether than it has at present proved itself; but its powers are necessarily very limited—the police can do no more than any private individuals in this direction; but so long as Oxford continues to be the “happy hunting ground” it at present is for them, so long will beggars continue to abound: the remedy rests mainly with the public themselves. The Committee would once more urge upon them that, in giving help in this thoughtless way to those of whom they know nothing, they are at once doing in most cases harm to those who receive their alms, by robbing them of self-reliance and self-respect; and a great wrong to those who are attempting by honest labour to earn their own living. If only anyone begged of will take the trouble to take down the beggar’s name and address and forward them to the Society’s office, the Committee will undertake that, if not a fit case for the workhouse, the applicant shall be relieved to the very best of their power.’

‘**INSTITUTIONIZED.**’—A manager of one of the large charities in New York used a very significant term when describing his work to the Committee of the State Charities Aid Association. He said, ‘We have a word of our own when a child stays too long in the building; we say that he becomes “institutionized.”’

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 146.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 14, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Office of the St. Paneras (South) Committee will in future be open from 10 A.M. to 12 only and not from 4 P.M. to 5.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir A. Gordon, Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; W. W. Moore, Esq., Hon. R. C. Moreton, Esq., *St. George's*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. Lavers Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; F. Du Pre Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; C. E. Machen, Esq., *St. Olave's*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Dr. Hawksley, C. A. Miner, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 25. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

Mr. Lavers Smith called attention to the resolution which had been entered on the minutes, as agreed to at the end of the discussion on Mr. A. H. Hill's motion about out-relief.

The Secretary said that he had been guided by a resolution which had come into his hands at the end of the last meeting, and which he believed to be the resolution moved by Mr. Langhorne.

The Chairman said that Mr. Langhorne had only moved 'that the subject be referred to the Administrative Committee for consideration and report.' He had not wished to commit the Council to the objects of the resolution.

The minutes were altered accordingly.

The Secretary stated that the Mile End and Stepney Committees had applied to him for Letters to Sea-side Convalescent

Homes for suitable cases, but that he had not been able to supply them.

A letter was read from Kensington, mentioning that a person, about whom that Committee had been asked to inquire for the Children's Hospital, declined to allow the Committee to verify her statements, and added that she preferred subscribing to a Provident Dispensary; this they understood she had done.

## BOOTS AND CLOTHES.

A letter was read from the Rev. J. H. Jenkinson, Hon. Secretary of the Reading Charity Organisation Association. It had been delayed on its way in consequence of the absence abroad of the member of the Council to whom Mr. Jenkinson had written. The essential portion of the letter was as follows:—

I see by the *Reporter* of June 2nd that you have had a discussion on the question of supplying clothes, as a gift, to the children of parents who, being compelled to send them to school, allege that they have not sufficient clothing for them to go in, and are without the means of providing it. I am much surprised to find that such a proposition did not meet with a more decided protest, and I heartily endorse the remarks of Mr. McGachen made in opposition to the proposal. My own experience in the matter leads me to say that it is productive of unmixed evil, that it entirely fails in its object, and that it encourages everything which makes homes wretched and children ragged, and is a distinct premium upon unthriftiness and improvidence. The way in which we have endeavoured to deal with the difficulty here is by a Committee (of which I am the Chairman), which has now existed for three years, and which was called at starting the 'Destitute Children Aid Committee,' a name which expresses our first intention better than our subsequent practice, as those who are most destitute are always those whom it is most difficult to help without doing more harm than good.

Our principle is to require repayment by small weekly sums for everything we supply (almost entirely boots), and those who do not, being considered able, make any attempt at repayment we do not help again. In most cases we do not make them repay quite the whole amount, but often they are quite willing to do so, and it is always possible to regulate this according to the merits of a case, and in one which is very poor and deserving to remit a large portion, and to make things almost a gift while preserving the principle. We never give more than one pair of boots at a time, nor a second pair till the first are paid for. One use of our Committee is that the excuse of 'no shoes to go in' does not avail the parents when summoned for not sending their children to school, as it is known that if they are deserving they might have got help from us.

The only change I am anxious to be made is gradually to require prepayment instead of repayment. It is quite as easy for the poor themselves, and much better for them; their difficulty being not to find the small sum weekly, but to find the whole cost of a pair of boots at once. Thus it would become a provident club, and the existence of such a club or clubs is really all that is wanted to meet the difficulty. There are very few deserving parents who could not by their help provide sufficient clothing for their children, and exceptional cases might be dealt with by private charity, while it would mark out and enable pressure to be put upon that class that is always found in greater or less numbers everywhere, which nothing will induce to do anything for itself, and which all experience teaches that it is therefore impossible to help.

## EMIGRATION.

Mr. A. H. Hill called attention to the inexpediency of encouraging men who were already in employment to seek for charitable contributions to enable them to emigrate. The



best test, he added, of a colony being really in need of labour was its willingness to give free passages.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending July 3 the receipts had been £31. 12s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £536. 6s. 7d. and £161. 11s. 3d. respectively.

And that they had directed that Messrs. Spottiswoode should be requested to keep a form in type which had been used by some of the District Committees for obtaining returns from District Charities, so that others might obtain it.

A grant of £35 was made to the Bethnal Green Committee on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, July 10, 1875:—*Donations*: Caesar Hawkins, Esq., £3; Miss Olive Talbot, 5s. *Annual*: W. H. Birley, Esq., £1. 1s.; R. W. Graham, Esq., £1. 1s.

The following business stands for Monday, July 19:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:

1. That the Committee on the Blind be authorised to put their draft report in type before finally adopting it.
2. That a grant of £35, in addition to £20 recently granted, be made to the Mile End Old Town Committee.
3. That a grant of £50 be made to the North St. Pancras (and Highgate) Committee.
4. That a grant of £25 be made to the St. Giles Committee.
5. That a grant of £20 on account be made to the Islington Committee.
6. That a grant of £20 on account be made to the Stepney Committee.

#### AFFILIATED COUNTRY ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received the following returns from Associations affiliated to the Society, showing the number of cases they have decided during the quarter ending Saturday, June 26, 1875:—

	Birkenhead	Brighton	Chester	Eton	Glasgow	Horsham	Kingston-on-Thames	Oxford	Reading	Scarborough	Wimbledon	Winchester
<b>CLASS I.</b> Dismissed, or unfavourably reported on, as—												
1. Not requiring relief	5	3	..	..	35	1	2	..	1	6	..	..
2. Undeserving	25	24	10	1	84	2	..	6	5	6	2	1
3. Cases for Poor-law, or otherwise ineligible	14	20	2	1	7	1	..	7	3	17	..	4
	44	47	12	2	126	4	2	13	9	29	2	5
<b>CLASS II.</b> Recommended to—												
1. The Guardians	9	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
2. Institutions or Local Agencies	8	0	..	5	24	..	..	6	..	..	1	..
3. Private Persons	5	8	8	2	27	..	..	2	2	2	1	..
	22	10	8	7	51	..	..	10	2	2	2	..
<b>CLASS III.</b> Assisted by—												
1. Grants	61	19	6	2	4	7	..	15	3	31	2	2
2. Loans	..	..	1	4	1	..	..	9	..	6	1	1
3. Employment	3	..	2	6	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
4. Letters for Hospitals, &c.	..	17	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
	64	36	9	13	7	7	2	25	3	37	4	3
	130	93	29	22	184	11	4	48	14	68	8	8
Reports sent out	10	50	..	..	68	..	..	37	..	..	3	4
Inquiries for other Associations and Committees	3	12	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..
Vagrants dealt with	18	673	19	381	..	25	236	96	10	48	724	..

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of June 1875 was 32,661, and 51,937 received out-door relief, making a total of 84,598. This was a decrease of 635 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,089, 16,219, and 20,401 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 334. This was a decrease of 177 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 245 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	2	3	2	7	..	1	2	3	5	..	8	13	23	7	1	2	
Fulham .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	2	1	2	4	3	4	
Paddington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	7	5	..	..	
Chelsea .....	2	..	1	3	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	5	2	6	..	
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	3	..	3	6	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	20	16	2	..	
Westminster do.	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	5	2	2	9		2	..	..	
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	15	3	
St. Marylebone .....	2	1	1	4	..	13	4	17	..	2	..	1	24	2	5	..	
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	5	3	8	..	10	..	10	..	1	..	1	20	2	2	1	
South St. Pancras ....	5	2	4	11	..	22	3	25	..	..	..	1	37	2	4	..	
Islington .....	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	20	1	
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	1	..	1	2	..	6	..	6	2	1	..	3	11	1	6	..	
Strand .....	..	..	3	3	..	4	..	4	1	..	1	2	9	5	4	..	
Holborn .....	2	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	34	13	..	
City .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	6	14	13	..	
Shoreditch .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	4	6	1	5	2	
Bethnal Green .....	2	1	4	7	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	3	11	1	2	..	
Whitechapel .....	2	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	6	2	4	..	
St. George's-in-the-East	1	..	3	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	
Stepney .....	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	4	2	..	
Mile End Old Town ..	..	..	3	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	1	..	..	
Poplar .....	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	3	1	11	..	
St. Saviour's .....	3	3	1	7	..	3	..	3	2	1	2	5	15	1	5	..	
Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	
Lambeth:— { North .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	5	1	3	..	
{ South .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..		1	..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	1	1	4	
Battersea .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	3	7	
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	3	3	..	6	..	6	1	..	..	1	10	..	..	..	
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		2	..	..	..
Greenwich .....	1	..	2	3	..	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	8	1	..	1	
Deptford .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	6	6	..	4	
Woolwich .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	5	..	..	..	
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3	..	6	
*Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	2	..	1	3	
Total .....	30	21	49	100	3	71	13	87	35	18	14	15	82	269	123	135	43

\* No return received from this Committee at time of going to press.

**THE SIZE OF LONDON.**—How can we conjure up an adequate conception of the mighty multitude of buildings with which this bricken county of a capital is covered? Well, if we have but a misty idea of a mass in its integrity, at least we can arrive at a clearer sense of length in its continuity. Now, half a million houses having an average frontage of five yards each would form an unbroken line of buildings which would be just upon 1,300 miles long; and 1,300 miles of dwellings would be nearly sufficient to form one continuous row right round the entire island of Great Britain, from John o'Groats to the Land's End, and from the Land's End to the North Foreland, and from the North Foreland back again to John o'Groats. Or, what is more striking still, such a line of buildings would be more than enough to make one long street stretching right across Scotland, England, France, and Switzerland, from Dunnet Head in Caithness, to the banks of the Mediterranean. If, then, such be the mere length of the aggregate houses in London, it may be readily conceived that the streets of the monster metropolis should be some thousands in number: and, accordingly, we find that there are upwards of 10,500 different streets, roads, lanes, gardens, and parks; squares, ovals, polygons, crescents, circuses, and terraces; villas, buildings, rows, and places. In comparison with our other large cities London contains nearly eight times as many people as the united towns of Manchester and Salford, and the same proportion as regards Liverpool; nine times as many as Glasgow; twelve times as many as Birmingham; fourteen times as many as Dublin; and upwards of twenty times as many as Edinburgh; while, compared with the four constituent portions of the United Kingdom, the number of people located in the metropolis is about one-sixth that of the entire population of England; two thirds that of Ireland; rather more than the aggregate population of Scotland; and nearly thrice as many as the whole of the people in the whole of Wales.—*Builder*.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its twenty-eighth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), the Hon. H. Walpole, Col. Fyers, Col. Mansfield Turner, Messrs. D. Conolly, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, W. M. Wilkinson, Mr. Hutchinson, Visitor, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head V.:—‘What provision at present exists for the support of the Blind not able to maintain themselves by their own industry, and what improvements, if any, are desirable in the system on which funds for this purpose are administered?’

It was resolved:

‘That the Committee are of opinion that charitable relief to the able-bodied Blind in small sums, should be as a rule discouraged, but that *substantial* help, in well-authenticated cases, and especially where aid in business or at the commencement of industrial or other occupations might be of permanent value, should be one of the chief objects to be aimed at; and that all trustees of public charity for the Blind should so co-operate and communicate with each other as not unintentionally to overlap in dispensing the money of which they are put in trust.’

**DORSET MENDICITY SOCIETY.**—The number of Vagrants relieved in the 13 Unions of Dorset for the half-year ending 30th June last amounted to 1,182 against 1,368 in the corresponding period of last year, showing a reduction of 13 per cent. on the first six months of 1874, and of 80 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1869.

**CONFESSIONS OF A VAGRANT.**—The following letter may be considered as a continuation of one from the same writer printed in the *Reporter* of last week:—

Sherborne Union Workhouse: April 19, 1875.

Honoured Sir,—I duly received your note of the 15th inst., to which I now reply. I commence with the quack doctors. In the first place, I must tell you that I never engaged in the dirty business on my own account. I have been a tool in the hands of others. The first time it was in Yarmouth. A quack who was lodging at the same ‘ken’ with me asked me if I was willing to earn a couple of shillings easily. I replied in the affirmative. This was to come into the market-place in the afternoon, while he himself was expatiating on the virtues of his infallible medicines, and purchase half-a-dozen boxes of the pills, saying that myself and others had derived immense benefit from their use, and that, for the future, I was resolved never to be without them, the money to pay for them having been given me beforehand by the ‘doctor’ (save the mark). Well, I carried out my instructions to the letter, and so well pleased the modern Esculapius, that in the evening he employed me to work for him at a salary of £1 per week, besides travelling expenses. I was now to be initiated in the sublime mystery of compounding the ‘medicines,’ almost invariably ‘pills.’ My duty was to collect the ingredients, and I now solemnly declare that I got them ready made from the sheepfold or the rabbit-warren. Those from the sheepfold had to be considerably reduced in size, after which they were coated with finely pulverized sugar and flour, and, after being dried to a proper consistency, were placed in pill-boxes, which are easily obtained, and then held forth to the dolts who were silly enough to listen to him as ‘American sugar-coated pills,’ purely vegetable, and warranted not to contain one particle of mercury, colocynth, or other deleterious poison, so extensively used by regular doctors. These pills are a sovereign remedy for bilious disorders, liver complaints, dyspepsia, or indigestion, the symptoms of which are learnedly described by the ‘orator’ (which was generally myself), learnt by heart from a medical work by Dr. Buchanan.

When we were travelling in country villages there was no ‘ill which flesh is heir to’ but what my master (blatant ignoramus as he was) would not undertake to cure—worms, piles, tusk or itch, gout, rheumatism, ulcers, fits, &c.; but the naked truth is that he was a greater fool than I; he could not read a paragraph in a newspaper, and could scarcely write his own name. He knew no more about the maladies he professed to cure than a hog; but he possessed in an eminent degree that grand, indispensable qualification, any amount of cheek, and his takings on an average were £10 a week.

I travelled with this man for about four months, chiefly in the eastern counties, when I expressed a desire to leave him, when he immediately offered to raise my wages by giving me 25s. a week, but I would not accept it and left him. I have travelled with three others, all of the same kidney, since that time: suffice it to say that a set of more unprincipled, ignorant rascals never disgraced earth.

Perhaps, sir, you may think that by turning ‘Queen’s evidence’ I am worse than the ones I impeach; but I don’t wish to exonerate myself, for I confess that I am about the most worthless of beings, but the truth ought to be known; poor people ought not to be systematically robbed by quack doctors or any other description of rogue; for rogues, rascals, and liars are the whole fraternity, myself included.

\* \* \* \* \*

Yours unworthily,  
G. A. BRINE.

P.S.—I was born October 29, 1812.

**PROPOSED APPLICATION OF THE ARTISANS’ DWELLINGS ACT.**—A report on the application of Mr. Cross’s Artisans’ Dwellings Bill to the courts and alleys of Gray’s Inn Lane has been presented to the Holborn District Board of Works, by Mr. L. H. Isaacs, Surveyor to the Board. The area proposed to be dealt with is described as a parallelogram extending from Portpool Lane on the north to Holborn on the south, and from Leather Lane on the east to Gray’s Inn Lane on the west. The length from north to south is 1,100 feet, and the width from east to west 550 feet, making a superficial area of 67,222 square yards, or nearly 14 acres. A little to the north of this site will be found Liquorpond Street, which is to form an integral portion of the new thoroughfare from Oxford Street to Shoreditch, and which will be made 60 feet wide; and again northwards, Little Gray’s Inn Lane, Tethill Street, and Laystall Street, all of which would be widened. The age and general condition of the houses will not admit of any material alteration of the fabrics. The only course open, therefore, is to pull down the property and rebuild. With the exception of St. Alban’s Church, there is no building that need be preserved; and with the exception of that edifice and Brooke Street, which serves as an approach thereto, Mr. Isaacs proposes to take advantage of the clearance to widen such of the remaining streets as are of insufficient width. This thoroughfare, through which there is a large amount of traffic, is little more than 30 feet in width from King’s Road to Holborn, and it is recommended that it should be increased to 50 feet, and but for the extra estimated cost of £20,000, even to 60 feet. Leather Lane it is proposed to make 40 feet wide throughout, the houses on the west side being removed for that purpose until Greville Street is reached, when, with the object of not interfering with Furnival’s Inn, the east side of the road would be taken for the remainder of its length. For a distance of 50 feet this widening of Leather Lane is in the City of London, to which the Artisans’ Dwellings Bill does not apply, but the general powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works would, probably, enable them to deal with this portion of the scheme. Portpool Lane, which forms the northern boundary of the cleared area, would also be made 40 feet wide, and Holborn on the south being upwards of 100 feet in width, the four streets enclosing the parallelogram are thus disposed of. With the exception of Brooke Street, Mr. Isaacs would entirely ignore the labyrinth of small streets, courts, alleys, and places, and, in lieu thereof, would simply cut four new roadways, three of them being as nearly at right angles with the east and west boundary roads as would best suit the plan. One of these roadways would be in continuation of Cross Street, one in continuation of Greville Street, and the two others are intended as approaches to St. Alban’s, one leading from Gray’s Inn Lane to the western end of the church, and the other from the new Upper Cross Street to the existing northern doorway. These approaches would be 40 feet wide and would have a row of trees on each side. Some amount of ground would also be thrown on three sides of the church, and would be planted with trees. A depth of 50 feet is proposed to be taken for building plots next Gray’s Inn Road and Leather Lane, and with the exception of these two frontages the remainder of the space cleared would be devoted to the object of Mr. Cross’s Act. With regard to the numbers who come strictly within the term ‘artisans,’ who would be removed if this scheme were carried into effect, it is shown that, out of the buildings to be demolished, 239 houses contain 1,019 working men’s families, making a total of 3,661 persons. A plan is submitted, showing how the various cleared sites are proposed to be utilised. The blocks of buildings are grouped in such manner as the configuration of the various sites would suggest, care being taken in each instance to get ample courtyards, so as to secure plenty of light and ventilation, and to provide for one of the greatest wants in London—healthful and secure playgrounds for children. In addition to the forecourts shown on the plan, Mr. Isaacs proposes in each instance to carry down the walls of the main buildings, and to construct an arcaded basement, finishing the floor with asphalt, so as to form covered playgrounds available in wet weather. Five sites are obtained of varying areas, and, when it is stated that these sites contain a total superficies of 300,000 feet, it will be readily seen that provision can be made not only for those removed but for a considerable addition to their numbers. Among the details proposed for the new buildings is the provision of flat roofs for drying-places, and of wash-houses and the necessary apparatus for washing clothes at this level, in order to remove the discomforts of washing being carried on in the dwelling. Mr. Isaacs has no hesitation in saying, after a minute investigation, that the scheme will recoup the cost involved in its execution, save a portion of the outlay in widening streets, which latter may fairly claim to come under the head of a metropolitan improvement.—*Standard*.

**INDISCRIMINATE CHARITY.**—The children at the South Metropolitan District School at Sutton had thrown to them, by persons passing to and from Epsom on the Derby and Oaks days, coins amounting to no less than £95, amongst which were sovereigns and a large proportion of silver. The managers of the schools have directed that the money shall be employed in giving the elder children a day at the Crystal Palace, and some suitable entertainment to the younger ones.—*Metropolitan*.



**ASSOCIATION FOR BEFRIENDING YOUNG SERVANTS.**—The following paper has been sent to us:—This Association was formed about a year ago by persons who were much impressed by the frequent failures which occur in the lives of friendless girls in London, when thrown upon the world at an early age without adequate guidance and protection. It was thought that some effort might be made to interest ladies in the young servants living in their own neighbourhood, and especially in those brought up in Pauper Schools, who are as a class more friendless than any other, and who have neither the ordinary inducements towards good, nor the restraints from evil, which home ties bring.

There are peculiar facilities for the assistance of these pauper girls; complete registers of them are in existence, and little more is necessary than for the Managers of the Schools and the Committee of the Association to be placed in communication with each other. Up to the age of sixteen these girls are under official supervision. Besides the inspection of the Relieving Officer, many of the Metropolitan Pauper Schools have made provision for the visiting of these girls in service by the Chaplain or Matron, and it is thought that this important work might, with advantage, be supplemented and carried on beyond the period of inspection by the help of ladies of the Association resident in the neighbourhood.

There are Members of the Association residing in each Metropolitan district. One of these ladies, upon a girl being committed to her care, will call, and endeavour to establish friendly relations with both girl and mistress, taking care not to refer without necessity to the fact of the girl's previous connection with the Schools where it is not already known.

Thus, when a girl at the early and critical age of sixteen passes from under official care, having, as is so often the case, no relations whose protection would be an advantage to her, she would feel that she had a friend at hand who had her welfare at heart. It is feared that often, for want of some such friendly aid, many of these girls drift from place to place, sink lower and lower, and eventually become a burden on the rates.

The Committee hope to establish, if found to be necessary, a Central Home, where young servants out of place may find lodgings and board themselves; and meanwhile ladies who have charge of girls will be requested to recommend them, in the intervals between places, to safe lodgings or Homes already existing.

It is not proposed that any periodical visits should be made except when the mistresses are favourably inclined; in other cases a single visit may, without offence, do all that is required, as it will afford the opportunity of giving the girl and the mistress the name of the lady-visitor to whom either may apply in case of need.

Experience has shown, wherever the trial has been made by timely and not too frequent visits, that the mistresses of these girls are generally ready to welcome the visits of ladies interesting themselves in the welfare of their young servants, and are often glad to take counsel concerning them with any patient listener.

Respectfully submitting these considerations to Boards of Guardians and Managers of Pauper Schools, the Committee offer, on being furnished with the names and addresses of girls passing from under supervision, to place them under the care of some Member of the Association residing in the neighbourhood.

In cases where it may be thought desirable that girls in service who are still under sixteen should be placed under the care of the Committee, they will be glad to undertake to visit them, and will report of them from time to time as may be desired. The name of the lady to whom the girl can be introduced could in such cases be supplied by the Committee to the Board.

A deputation from the Committee will, if desired, attend to give Boards of Management any further explanation with respect to the proposed work of the Association.

**Central Committee:**—Miss Bousfield, Madame Parkes-Belloc, Mrs. Andrew Charles, Miss Elliot, Mrs. Isa Craig-Knox, Miss M. Shaw Lefevre, Miss Nattali, Miss Sarah W. Stephen; Hon. Secretary—Miss Anne Townshend; Assist. Hon. Secretary—Miss Amabel Thompson. The Office of the Association is at 7 Great College Street, Westminster, S.W.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Report of St. Augustine's Mission, Stepney, by the Rev. W. H. Langhorne, M.A. 1875.

Report of the British and Foreign Blind Association for Promoting the Education and Employment of the Blind. 1875.

State Savings: A Scheme of Universal Competency, by R. Moore James, Public Accountant. S. D. Ewens & Co., 2s. 6d.

Fortieth and Forty-first Annual Reports of the Montreal Ladies' Benevolent Society. 1873 and 1874.

Report of the Committee of the Stewart Institution and Asylum for the Education and Maintenance of Idiot and Imbecile Children, Dublin. 1874.

Harveian Oration, by Dr. Guy Renshaw. 1875.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.

FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.

PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.

CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.

ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anne's, Soho)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.

ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.

HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.

NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.

SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.

ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Barnsbury, N.

HACKNEY—Old Town Hall, E.

ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.

STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.

HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.

CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.

SHOREDITCH—56 St. John's Road, Hoxton, N.

BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.

WHITECHAPEL UNION—194 Commercial Road, E.

ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—194 Commercial Road, E.

STEPNEY UNION—598 Commercial Road, E.

MILE-END OLD TOWN—116 Mile End Road, E.

POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.

ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK—9 St. George's Circus, S.E.

NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.

ST. OLAVE'S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.

LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner's Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and

21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.

BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.

CLAPHAM—3 Polygon, S.W.

CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.

GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.

DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.

WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter's Hill Road, S.E.

LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.

ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.

SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council. This fund is now nearly exhausted.

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# THE Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 147.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 21, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The *Reporter* will not appear during the months of August and September, as the Council does not meet during those months, though the Administrative Committee sits as usual.

The Secretary of the Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Sea-side or other Convalescent Homes at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, several of the District Committees in the poorer parts of London having suitable cases before them.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: A. H. Hill, Esq. (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, *Kensington Committee*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., *W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., Chelsea*; W. W. Moore, Esq., *St. George's*; H. Peto, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., *E. Peters, Esq., Stepney*; Edgar Hyde, Esq., *T. Galabin, Esq., Camberwell*; Dr. Hawksley, C. A. Miner, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 20. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the Mile End Committee, urging the importance of the Council doing all it could to help its East End Committees. All the clergy present at a recent clerical meeting had expressed themselves in approval of the principles of the Society, but they had doubted whether the Council would be able to appeal to the public as effectually as individual clergymen.

The Secretary reported that the Rev. S. Bell would under-

take the duties of Hon. Secretary of the St. George's Committee temporarily from the 21st inst.

He stated that a few more volumes of District Committee Reports had been bound up, containing the Report of the Poplar Committee, which had not been ready in time for the previous volumes; also that a few sets of the Reports of some of the affiliated associations and some other provincial societies had been bound, and were about to be sent to the societies which had contributed their Reports.

He reminded the Council that a lady at the head of a large institution near Birmingham had offered, after the 31st of July, to take in two orphan children—a boy and a girl—free, on the recommendation of the Society; and others at 4s. weekly for girls and 5s. for boys; the children to have lost both parents and to be above ten. He had not as yet received any applications.

## IMPROVED DWELLINGS.

He reported that Mr. Vigers had recently returned the map which he had been so good as to prepare for the Dwellings Committee, showing all the blocks of improved dwellings in the central parts of London.

Mr. A. H. Hill suggested that it would be easy to reduce and reproduce this map by photography.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending July 10 the receipts had been £5. 7s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £520. 5s. 3d. and £130. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That in pursuance of the permission which Mr. Peek had given, they had requested him to pay a first quarterly instalment of his donation on October 1, to meet the expenses of the preceding quarter, and that they had informed a District Committee, which had written to them on the subject, that all Committees applying for grants from the District Committee Aid Fund would be expected to state what number of cases the Divisional Committee of the School Board had sent to them during the quarter ending September 30, and whether any special expenditure had been incurred in connection with them.

The Report was adopted.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

A recommendation was brought up from the Administrative Committee in favour of allowing the Special Committee on the Blind to put its Report in type before finally adopting it.

The Secretary reminded the Council that whilst they reserved to themselves the right of receiving the Reports of Special Committees or referring them back, it was a matter of course that the Report when received should be printed as the Report of the Committee which had made it, and not as the Report of the Council. No question was likely to arise in the present instance about receiving the Report of the Com-



mittee, which had already held thirty meetings and had considered the subject referred to it most carefully, and the Committee would no doubt be able to send up a better Report if the members had it before them in proof.

The recommendation was adopted.

Grants to District Committees were made as follows, after financial statements and estimates for the current quarter had been submitted:—Mile End £35, North St. Pancras £50, St. Giles £25, Islington £20 on account, Stepney £20 on account.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions were received during the week ending Saturday, July 17, 1875:—*Donations*: The Grocers' Company, £100; Sir George R. Philips, Bart., £50. *Annual*: Major-General Bainbrigge, R.E., £1. 1s.; G. D. Ryder, Esq., £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: H. Goschen, Esq., £10; Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co., £10. 10s.

The following business stands for Monday, July 26:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:

1. That Bye-law I. be altered by omitting the words 'and if any meeting fall on or near a public holiday, it shall be open to any member to move that it shall not take place,' and substituting the words 'but it shall be open to members to move that the Council shall adjourn over any Monday.'

2. That a grant of £30, in addition to £20 already granted on account, be made to the Stepney Committee.

3. That a grant of £50 be made to the Holborn Committee.

4. That power be given to the Administrative Committee to make grants to District Committees during August and September.

Sir Alexander Gordon to move (provided that recommendation I. be adopted), that the Council at its rising for the recess adjourn to Monday, October 11, instead of Monday, October 4.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirtieth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), the Hon. H. Walpole, Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Fyers, Messrs. W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, W. M. Wilkinson, Mr. Hutchinson, Visitor, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

It was agreed that the Committee, after its meeting on the 21st inst., should adjourn to Wednesday, October 27.

The draft report was read so far as the conclusions arrived at by the Committee had allowed of its completion, and it was agreed, subject to the approval of the Council, that it should be printed in proof and sent out to members during the recess.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head VI.:—'To what extent should the education and training of the Blind be provided for from the rates or other public sources.'

It was resolved:—'That the Committee recommend that the attention of Guardians of the Poor be requested to the powers vested in them under 25 & 26 Vict., c. 43, and 31 & 32 Vict., c. 122, with a view to their providing the indigent blind with the means of learning a trade by attendance at workshops, or of obtaining suitable education and training at the institutions established for this purpose, and that the several institutions be invited to urge that such provision be made in all suitable cases.'

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Contemporary Review for June, with an Article by Lord Lyttelton on The Poor Laws.

Index of the Streets and Places in the Metropolis.

Fourth Annual Report of the Bâle Voluntary Poor Relief Society and Instructions for Visitors.

Rules of the Prague Board for Poor Relief.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of July 1875 was 32,686, and 50,786 received out-door relief, making a total of 83,472. This was a decrease of 1,126 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,982, 16,557, and 20,809 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 366. This was an increase of 32 on the return, for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 237 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	4	6	6	16	..	..	3	3	1	..	..	1	20	7	4	9	
Fulham .....	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	4	7	4	3	4	
Paddington .....	1	..	4	5	..	4	2	6	8	..	6	2	27	14	7	2	
Chelsea .....	2	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	6	8	2	..	
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. George's Division.	..	1	5	6	..	1	2	3	1	..	1	2	17	4	..	..	
Westminster do.	3	..	..	3	..	1	1	2	3	1	..	6	22	2	3	..	
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	19	4	
St. Marylebone .....	2	1	2	5	1	11	1	13	1	..	4	5	23	5	9	..	
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	6	1	..	..	1	7	1	8	1	
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	3	1	2	6	..	9	2	11	..	1	..	1	18	..	4	..	
South St. Pancras .....	5	4	17	26	..	15	2	17	..	1	2	3	46	5	7	..	
Islington .....	1	..	..	1	..	3	..	3	..	1	..	1	5	..	..	3	
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	1	1	..	11	..	11	3	..	..	3	15	..	7	..	
Strand .....	..	..	1	1	..	2	1	3	2	..	2	4	8	5	6	..	
Holborn .....	..	..	1	1	..	27	..	27	..	..	..	..	28	3	15	..	
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	11	15	2	
Shoreditch .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	5	..	4	..	
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	2	4	..	1	..	1	3	..	4	7	12	1	..	..	
Whitechapel .....	2	1	1	4	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	6	3	1	2	
St. George's-in-the-East	1	..	2	3	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	6	..	2	..	
Stepney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	3	1	3	..	
Mile End Old Town ..	4	..	1	5	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	6	..	1	..	
Poplar .....	2	1	3	6	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	7	3	1	..	
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Newington .....	1	1	2	4	..	2	2	4	7	..	..	7	15	3	2	..	
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	..	9	..	
Lambeth:—	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	1	..	3	4	7	1	1	..	
North .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wandsworth & Putney	..	4	4	8	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	7	1	1	9	
Battersea .....	2	2	4	8	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	2	7	2	1	1	
Clapham .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	4	5	2	1	7	
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Grove Lane .....	..	2	2	4	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	8	..	1	..	
Peckham .....	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	
Greenwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	1	..	..	1	7	1	..	5	
Deptford .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	2	1	..	3	5	1	1	..	
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
Lewisham .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	4	7	1	9	
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	
Total .....	37	22	67	126	2	107	20	129	45	10	10	28	93	348	110	143	97

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**WHITECHAPEL.—Impostor.**—The Secretary of this Committee writes that he has heard from several clergymen and others in the neighbourhood that they have been imposed upon lately by a man who professes to have come out of prison and to be a reformed character, requiring a little temporary help for a night's lodging or for tools. He gives the name of Brooks, is said to be marked with small pox, to have large dark eyes, and to wear his hair closely cropped to aid the imposition.

**POOR LAW CONFERENCE.**—The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Conference for the four Northern Counties is to be held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 4th and 5th of August. The chair will be taken at two o'clock, p.m., on Wednesday, the 4th, by the Right Hon. Lord Elington, M.P., and the Committee's Report on the previous transactions of the Conference will be read to the meeting by the Secretary, and its adoption moved after it has been fully considered by the members present. A Paper on the 'Abolition of the Law of Settlement' (the subject recommended to all the different Conferences for discussion by the President of the Local Government Board) will be read by the Rev. Dr. Simpson, of Kirkby Stephen, and the opinion of the meeting taken thereon. Papers on 'The Water Supply of the Country and the Pollution of Rivers' will be read by the Rev. G. F. Weston, of Crosby Ravensworth, and Dr. Page, Medical Officer of Health for Westmoreland, and the subject discussed.

**ERRATUM.**—In the Weekly Return for North St. Pancras, published in last week's Reporter, read 'not requiring relief 5,' instead of 'undeserving 5.'



## METROPOLITAN POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

The first annual Conference of London guardians, corresponding to the Conferences which are held in various parts of the country and send up representatives to a Central Conference held in London every winter, was held at 1 Adam Street, Adelphi, on Monday the 12th inst. The Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P. (late President of the Local Government Board), presided, and the meeting was attended by about sixty gentlemen connected with metropolitan boards of guardians, and others interested in the work of these Conferences and the amendment of the Poor Laws.

Mr. William Vallance, clerk to the Whitechapel Board of Guardians, commenced the proceedings by reading a paper on 'The Law of Settlement and Removal,' and, in concluding the same, made the following suggestions:—'Now, admitting that, to the extent I have named, evils and defects do exist in the law, I yet submit that it is not expedient to abrogate the law of settlement and removal, but rather that they show ground for a further amendment and simplification of that law. And the direction in which I would point a remedy is the following: (a) That a pauper's birth settlement should be held to supersede all prior derivative settlements. Thus the working of the law would be simplified, and much hardship to the poor (by removal to ancestral settlements, to which they may be strangers) avoided, whilst the principal occasion of litigation and expense would be removed. (b) That a birth settlement should (in its turn) yield to settlements acquired by the pauper after the age of 21 years. (c) That an industrial residence within the limits of a parish or union for a consecutive period of (say) three or five years should confer a settlement. The possibility of a pauper being removed from a locality in which he has been resident many years would be entirely obviated by the adoption of this form of residential settlement, whilst it would be a reasonable application of the principle that those who have benefited by a man's labour should be required to provide for any subsequent destitution of which he may be the subject. It would also tend to equalise the burthen of maintenance of the poor, and render more remote the necessity for recourse to derivative settlements. (d) That a wife or widow should follow the settlement of her present or last husband (as the case may be), and that, until attaining the age of 21 years, a child should follow the settlement of its surviving parent. The adoption of this suggestion would secure families against dismemberment, and would remove one of the most serious evils in the present system. (e) That the emancipation of children should be made absolute at the age of 21 years, and that the parish or union in which (before emancipation) they were last resident for a period of (say) three or five years, should be held to be their place of settlement until another settlement should be personally acquired. The effect of this provision would be to secure a pauper who has attained the age of 21 years against removal to a birth settlement from a place in which he may have been during his minority industrially resident. I submit these conclusions and suggestions to the judgment of this Conference. I venture to think that I have succeeded in showing cause against the total repeal of the law of settlement and removal, and if this is conceded, the only remaining question is, What legislative remedy should be applied to admitted defects? The direction which I have indicated appears to me to be justified by experience as one which will at once simplify the law, minimise expense, render litigation almost impossible, and remove any hardship to the poor.'

After considerable discussion, in which Mr. Herring (Camberwell), Mr. Swepstone (Stepney), Mr. Shaen (Lambeth), Mr. Birley (Marylebone), Mr. Alsager Hill, Mr. Barnett (Whitechapel), Mr. Seton (St. Pancras), Mr. Fildew (St. Pancras), Mr. Cull (St. Giles), Rev. T. Duffield (Woolwich), and others, took part—

Mr. Stansfeld said the question was one which had been carefully discussed, not only in London, but also in the country, and the time was not improbably coming when the question must be raised in Parliament; and therefore it was a practical purpose for the guardians to meet and discuss the question. He was bound to admit that, as far as the honest labourer was concerned, there was a case for the entire abolition of the law of settlement; but there were practical difficulties in the way which should make them hesitate. The real difficulty in men's minds was the question of the effect it would have upon the charges of the poor rates, specially in urban localities. Many felt that if it were abolished there would be a great influx of voluntary mendicancy coming into the metropolis, and he could not say that that fear was groundless. It was not, however, the case of the metropolis only, because other large towns were interested. Manchester went in for the abolition, but Liverpool, whose case was different in consequence of the large importation of Irish, did not. If they abolished the law of settlement for England the question arose how were they to deal with Ireland and Scotland, and every member of Parliament would have to look seriously at that aspect of the case before he could make up his mind to abolish the law. Another aspect of the case was the danger of delocalising the charges and ending by a national rate, and they already had evidence of a tendency in that direction, as one of the speakers had spoken in favour of a national in-door rate. So far as the legislators are concerned they would hesitate for a considerable time entertaining a question of total abolition. In Mr. Vallance's proposals

he saw clearly an amendment of the law, and as far as he was able to gather from the discussion the general opinion was with him, and especially in his proposition as to the industrial settlement, which would undoubtedly be a great improvement in the law. The right honourable gentleman, after having spoken of the great importance of such conferences, said that although he had no right to speak now for the Local Government Board, he thought he might say, as he had none but friends there, that as there was no jealousy in his time, they would not find any now in that department.

A resolution was then passed expressing the best thanks of the meeting to Mr. Vallance for his paper, and adjourning the consideration of the same to a future meeting. It was also explained that some additional information would be provided in the meantime on the subject, and that at the next meeting a motion would be proposed in regard to the paper.

The Conference then adjourned for an hour.

The Rev. S. A. Barnett, of St. Jude's, Whitechapel, on the re-assembling of the Conference, read a paper on 'Out-door Relief,' from which the *Daily Chronicle* takes the following extract:—'Personally, as a clergyman of a parish, and as a member of the Charity Organisation Society, I have had many opportunities of judging of the circumstances of the people, and I may say that I have found no great distress following the cessation of out-relief. One widow in my parish, who, on withdrawal of out-relief, refused to work in the house, or to allow her children to be sent to the school, complained bitterly for a time that she was left to starve, but she has since found regular work, and now puts 3s. to 4s. weekly in the penny bank. (Hear, hear.) In fact, the more I study the condition of the people, the more I am convinced that the help they most need is the withdrawal of State out-relief. When such action is confined to one or two unions we can only judge of its results on those who experience the treatment; if every union in London would so act we might look for a general improvement. The whole labouring class would then realise that regular work is desirable, and wastefulness a certain source of trouble to themselves. I do hope that the Conference may gradually lead to some such uniform action. The cruelty of irregular treatment can hardly be exaggerated—the poor, left without any certain teaching, seeing relief given to the inhabitants of one side of a street and refused to those on the other, are tempted to rely on chance, and so lose both strength of mind and body. This readiness to trust to chance, this gambling spirit, is a great stumbling-block in the way of all schemes for social improvement, as every one must know who has made any attempt to promote habits of saving and regular work. The evil is, I am sure, as much promoted by irregular administration of the Poor Law as by the doles of the universally abused but never acknowledged indiscriminate almsgiver. The same spirit would, I think, be encouraged by a course much advocated—that the abolition of out-relief should be proceeded with gradually. There is a common idea that a sudden change would bring much suffering on the people, and that, deprived of resources on which they had been in the habit of relying, they would perhaps starve. But they are in the habit of so relying because they have the chance of relief, and so long as that chance exists, however remote it be, they will continue so to rely, and neglect to look for other means of living. Let it be known to-morrow that after a certain date no new application for out-relief will be considered by the metropolitan guardians, and the people would, I think, receive an accession of moral strength not easily imagined, be the action what it may. In conclusion, I can only repeat my belief that both on grounds of economy and humanity, the practice of giving out-relief should be abandoned. I urge that the people's highest good demands the abolition.'

Mr. Longley, late Local Government Board Inspector, said that if he were asked in what manner he should like to see out-relief abolished, he should reply that a day should be fixed, after which no one who had not attained a certain age on that day should be entitled to out-relief. Thus they would raise a generation who did not know out-relief, and of course the guardians would be at work in the meantime to reduce the same as much as possible. The question had been clearly put by Mr. Barnett. There was no doubt that out-door relief meant low wages. He could sympathise with those who had suggested a very stringent mode of dealing with it, but at the same time they must take into consideration what would be said outside, and not go too far all at once. He thought, however, that the present time, when there was such a great demand for labour, would be a very favourable one for taking action on this matter.

Mr. Hedley, Local Government Board Inspector, strongly approved of the principle advocated by Mr. Barnett.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. Longley that out-door relief meant low wages. He thought the example of Whitechapel ought to bear fruit in other unions. He thought they could follow it with success.

A resolution, unanimously agreeing to a vote of thanks to Mr. Barnett for his valuable paper, was passed.

A Committee was then appointed to arrange the adjourned meeting for a further discussion on the law of settlement and removal, to appoint delegates to the Central Conference, and to report on the subject of a permanent organisation.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.



**THE ARAB CHILDREN OF LIVERPOOL.**—The Liverpool School Board, says the *Metropolitan*, are taking decisive measures to deal with the Arab population of Liverpool, and the District Education Committee of the Board have prepared a number of regulations on the subject. These provide that the town shall be divided into two districts, in each of which a 'Divisional Committee' shall be formed, these committees to have the control and management, so far as the powers of the Board extend, of the children selling fuzees, newspapers, or other articles in the streets; that in the Board schools the street children shall be kept distinct from the ordinary scholars and be under separate teachers wherever possible, the hours of attendance for such children being those which will least interfere with their calling, and the fees charged being duly regulated; that if the available accommodation in existing Board schools be deficient, or serious religious difficulties arise, a special school may be built for the street children; and that under certain circumstances good-conduct badges shall be given, to be worn by the children during school hours or when they are pursuing their avocations in the street.

**A LONDON STREET ARAB.**—Yesterday, Henry Smith, aged nine, was brought before Alderman Knight, at the Mansion House, charged with begging. He was in a most miserable condition, having no shirt on, and in a most dirty state. Mr. Willis, the School Board officer, ascertained that the prisoner had a decent home, but was continually running away and leading a vagabond life. On the present occasion he had been away from home three weeks, and at the time he left was decently clad; but all his good clothes were gone. During the day he begged about the City, and he and a number of other boys were in the habit of resorting to a low coffee-house in the neighbourhood of Thames Street, where a room was kept specially for their use. The prisoner had also a lodging in a thieves' lodging-house in Spitalfields, and here he passed the night. He added that it was contrary to the provisions of the Lodging House Act that a child of the age of the prisoner should be allowed to reside there. Alderman Knight remanded the prisoner for a week, and directed the constable on duty to make inquiries about the coffee-shop that had been alluded to.—*Globe*.

**PAROCHIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS.**—The following resolutions have been recently adopted by the Committee of the Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Association, and sent out to the clergy, towards the bonuses on whose Provident Funds the Association has been in the habit of making grants.

1. That the Committee are of opinion that many of the present depositors in Parochial Provident Societies might be induced to place their money in the Post Office Savings Bank, and they venture strongly to recommend to the clergy that they should facilitate transfer of accounts by all means in their power.

2. That it is undesirable that the rules of the Provident Societies should constrain depositors to withdraw their money annually at Christmas, and that the Hon. Treasurer and Secretary be empowered to make such alterations in the cards, forms, and books of the Association as may permit the deposits to be left in till the depositors require them.

3. That henceforward the Committee are not prepared to make grants to any Provident Fund which allows more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest per annum to the depositors.

4. That early notice of the above Resolutions be given to the Managers of Provident Funds, so that due arrangements for the year 1876 may be made by them in accordance with their tenour.

5. That the clergy be informed that the above Resolutions are to be in force until the end of 1876, towards the close of which the Metropolitan Visiting Association will reconsider the question whether the Provident Fund system shall not be abandoned.

## THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION

**SOCIETY** desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

## Publications of the Charity Organisation Society,

To be obtained at the Office of the Society, and through Messrs. Longmans, Paternoster Row, and all Booksellers.

**THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY, ITS OBJECTS AND MODE OF OPERATION.** Price 3d.

**MANUAL CONTAINING A LIST OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES AND THEIR MODE OF OPERATION.** Price 3d. per dozen.

**SUGGESTED RULES FOR DISTRICT COMMITTEES.** Price 1d.

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE PAPERS.** Price 3d. per set.

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**THE SOCIETY'S CLUE MAP OF LONDON**, showing the Divisions of the District Committees. In paper cover, and folded, 3 in. by 4 in. Price 6d.

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**SUGGESTIONS ON THE BEST MODE OF ORGANISING LOCAL CHARITY ASSOCIATIONS**, and other Papers for the Country. Price 3d.

**CONFERENCE ON NIGHT REFUGES HELD JUNE 8, 1870, AND REPORT OF COMMITTEE.** Price 4d.

**REPORT ON SOUP-KITCHENS AND DINNER-TABLES.** Price 3d. With digest of Reports and List of Soup-Kitchens, 1s.

**REPORT ON THE CRÈCHES, OR PUBLIC DAY NURSERIES OF LONDON**, by W. G. HOWGRAVE, Esq. With Special Reports on 23 Nurseries; also a Tabular Statement showing the system pursued by each. Price 3d.

**REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT.** Price 1d.

**REPORT OF MEDICAL COMMITTEE, AND RULES FOR PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.** Second Edition, with Proceedings at the Conference of December 12, 1871. Price 6d.

**REPORT ON THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR**, by a Special Committee of the Society, with Appendix. Second Edition. Price 6d.

**REPORT ON AN INQUIRY INTO THE SOCIAL POSITION OF THE OUT-PATIENTS OF THE ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, GRAY'S INN ROAD.** Price 3d.

**SUGGESTED RULES FOR PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.** *Separate.* Price 3d.

**VOTING CHARITIES.** Proceedings of the Council on the System of periodical contested Elections by the whole body of the Subscribers in its application to Hospitals and Orphanages. Price 1d.

**SPEECH OF THE BISHOP OF LONDON ON THE ORGANISATION OF CHARITY.** April 1870. Price 1d.

**THE CHARITABLE ADMINISTRATION OF AN EAST-END MISION DISTRICT.** By A. H. W. C. Price 1d.

**ADDRESS BY SIR CHARLES E. TREVELYAN ON THE SYSTEMATIC VISITATION OF THE POOR, AND REPORT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE ON HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION.** Price 6d.

**SUGGESTIONS TO THE CHARITABLE FOR SYSTEMATIC INQUIRY INTO THE CASES OF APPLICANTS FOR RELIEF.** By C. J. RIBTON-TURNER, Organising Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society. Price 2s. 6d.

**A HANDY-BOOK FOR VISITORS OF THE POOR IN LONDON, WITH CHAPTERS ON POOR LAW, SANITARY LAW, AND CHARITIES.** By CHARLES B. P. BOSANQUET, M.A., Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society. Price 2s.

**VOLUMES OF THE 'CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER'** for 1872, 1873, and 1874. Price 6s. 6d. per vol.

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Every Saturday, price 4d. A Weekly Journal of the Progress of Hygiene of Cities, Towns, Rural Districts, Mines, Factories, and Habitations; the Food, Water, Gas Supply, and Drainage of Towns and Rural Districts; the Vital Statistics of Population; the Influence on Health of Trades and Occupations; and the Operation of Acts bearing upon Public Health.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 148.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 28, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The *Reporter* will not appear during the months of August and September, as the Council does not meet during those months, though the Administrative Committee sits as usual.

District Committees are requested to send in their Weekly Returns as usual during August and September.

Monday, August 2nd, being a Bank Holiday, the Central Office will be closed.

Letters of recommendation to the following hospitals can be obtained from the Secretary of the Council by the Honorary Secretary of any District Committee having suitable cases before it:—

*In-patients:* Charing Cross, 12; King's College, 18; London, 28; Middlesex, 1; North London, 5; St. George's, 19; Westminster, 8; St. Mary's, Paddington, 1; Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, 1; British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street, 2; General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, 2; Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, 1; New Hospital for Women, Marylebone Road, 19; Royal Infirmary for Women and Children, Waterloo Road, 1; Hospital for Women and Sick Children, Vincent Square, Westminster, 1; Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 10; Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, Chelsea, 1; North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, 3; East London Hospital for Sick Children, and Dispensary for Women, 9; Belgravia Hospital for Children, 1; National Hospital for Paralytic and Epileptic, Queen's Square, 33; Royal London Ophthalmic, Moorfields, 4; Royal South London Ophthalmic, 4; Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars, 4; St. John's Hospital for Skin Diseases, Leicester Square, 1; London Homœopathic, 10; Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary, Margate, 1.

*Out-patients:* Charing Cross, 1; King's College, 25; London, 6; Middlesex, Lying-in Letters, 2; North London, 24; Westminster, 14; Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, 25; City of London for Diseases of the Chest, 23; North London Consumption, 24; Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, 15; New Hospital for Women, 10; Royal Infirmary for Women and Children, 1; British Lying-in

Hospital, 13; City of London Lying-in Hospital, 5; General Lying-in Hospital, 2; Royal Maternity Charity, 10; Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 25; North-Eastern Hospital for Sick Children, 15; Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, 12; Infirmary for Epilepsy and Paralysis, 1; Royal South London Ophthalmic, 18; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 3; Royal Orthopædic, Hatton Garden, 7; London Homœopathic, 7; Dental Hospital, 13; Public Dispensary, Stanhope Street, Clare Market, 2; Chelsea, Brompton, and Belgrave Dispensary, 2; Farringdon General Dispensary, 17; Western City Infirmary, 25; City of London Truss Society, 14; Provident Surgical Appliance Society, 2; South Western Provident Dispensary, 1; Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary, Margate, 6.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Major Yard (in the chair); W. Bousfield, Esq., F. J. S. Edcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., *Chelsea*; Rev. Samuel Bell, *St. George's*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Reginald Smith, Esq., *St. Giles*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill Webber, *Holborn*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; Rev. H. P. Kelly, Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, *Whitechapel*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; George Parker, Esq., *Lewisham*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Member*; total, 22. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*.

A letter was read from the Kensington Committee, stating that Mr. Bousfield and Mr. Waller would be the representatives of the Committee during the absence of Dr. Anderson and Sir Alexander Gordon.

## THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The Secretary said that he understood that the arrangements at the Children's Hospital were as follows:—The House-Surgeon saw all applicants for out-patient relief. If it appeared to him that a case only needed to be seen once, he gave what was called a casualty paper, which entitled the holder to one attendance only. If more was required he asked the weekly earnings, and, if the reply did not show earnings of more than 30s. a week, he noted this on a hospital letter and gave it to the applicant. This entitled the case to be seen at once, but it had to be taken to a Charity Organisation Committee for verification, and stamped by them before the holder could use it a second time. If an applicant admitted that earnings were over 30s., but said that she wished for a good opinion and could not pay a consultation fee, she would receive a casualty paper. The physicians and surgeons were authorised to give a hospital letter to any case which they thought ought to have one on medical grounds, recording their reason for doing this. The arrangement would be re-considered before the end of the year, and Committees would probably be asked to state their experience of its working in October; in the meantime he understood that the hospital authorities would gladly receive reports from the District Committees with regard to any case on which the 30s. rule seemed to press hardly.

He reported that a copy of the new edition of the Index to Streets and Places in the Metropolis had been presented to







in their power, with the Board of Guardians, and they beg to send with this letter copies of their application forms and rules, which indicate the principles which guide them in investigating and dealing with cases. I am also to say that, from enquiries made of Mr. Ribton-Turner, the Organising Secretary of the Council, they can assure the Board that the 'Charity Organisation Committee' whose proceedings were brought under the notice of Mr. Howgrave Graham was never connected with the Council or with the present Committee. Those gentlemen whose names appear on both the Committees only became members of this Committee (and consequently of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity) on or after June 19, 1872, as will be seen from the enclosed numbers of the *Charity Organisation Reporter*.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-first meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Col. Fyers, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, R. Bruce Reid, and W. M. Wilkinson, Mr. Hutchinson, Visitor, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Secretary reported that the Council had sanctioned the printing of the draft report, and that so much of it as was ready would be printed and sent to members of the Committee in proof during the recess.

He read a letter from the Local Government Board, giving information as to the number of blind persons in Metropolitan Poor-law institutions.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head VI.:—'To what extent should the education and training of the Blind be provided for from the rates or other public sources?'

It was resolved, on Col. Fyers' motion:—

'That, with a view to providing a sufficiency of well-qualified instructors, blind or sighted, it is expedient that, in like manner as opportunities are offered at institutions supported at the public expense for the training of schoolmasters and mistresses, the necessary means should also be afforded for the training of teachers of the blind to qualify them to impart either mental or industrial education. Such teachers to be furnished, after an examination, with certificates of competency.'

The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday, October the 27th.

#### THE CHARITIES OF NAPLES.

We take the following extract from a letter received by the Organising Secretary from Mr. Charles J. Calvert, British Consul at Naples:—It has not been possible for me yet to find out which of the numerous Charitable and Pious Institutions in Naples is so organised as to offer the best prospect of co-operating with yours. The written inquiries which I have addressed to the Syndic of Naples, as the most certain source of information, have hitherto remained unanswered.

It will give you some idea of the difficulty of the task when I mention that I have before me a list of no less than 120 different Charitable and Pious Institutions and Societies. These consist of Asylums, Hospitals, Archconfraternities, Confraternities, Trusts, &c., but none of them, so far as I can learn, specially occupies itself with the repression of mendicity, or has any general system of charitable relief.

An attempt was made a few years ago to organise a Society with the same object as yours, but it had finally to be abandoned, as well for want of proper support as in consequence of the impossibility of inducing any of the existing Institutions to co-operate.

In 1862 the Municipality of Naples, impressed with the necessity of a salutary reform of the Charitable and Pious Institutions, appointed a Committee for the purpose of studying the question. The task of the Committee was unfortunately never completed; for although they published a report suggesting various schemes of reform and re-organisation of all the Institutions, none were found practicable.

Some of the more numerous foreign communities in Naples (except the British) have organised systems for the relief of their fellow-countrymen. The only British Charity here is that of the English church, in which a collection is made from the congregation at Easter and at Christmas, and the fund, which rarely exceeds £40 a year is administered solely by the chaplain. To meet urgent cases of distress amongst British subjects, I have occasionally set on foot special subscriptions.

I do not, however, despair of eventually organising a British Benevolent Society in Naples; but to render the action of such a Society at all useful it is indispensable that similar Societies should be formed in other Italian cities, such as Rome, Florence, and Genoa; all co-operating upon a common basis with the view to mutual protection against impostors.

CHURCH CONGRESS.—'Charity Organisation, General and Parochial,' is to be discussed at an evening meeting of the Church Congress, at Stoke-on-Trent, on Tuesday, October 5. The subject will be introduced by Mr. Henry Longley, Rev. J. F. Kitchin, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

DEFAUPERISATION: being a letter addressed to Lord Lyttelton by Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart. Bentley & Son, 1s.

SANITARY AND SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT:—A paper read at a meeting held in the Town Hall, Waterloo, Liverpool, on June 21, 1875, by Joseph Rayner, Esq., with the Resolutions passed at the meeting.

Third Annual Report of the State Charities Aid Association to the State Board of Charities of the State of New York.

'Homes of the London Poor,' by Miss Octavia Hill, reprinted from the 'Fortnightly Review' and 'Macmillan's Magazine,' by permission of the author, by the State Charities Aid Association, New York.

Fortieth Annual Report of the London Domestic Mission.

Report of the Sub-Committee of Reference and Inquiry, appointed by the National Association for Providing Trained Nurses for the Sick Poor.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Annual Reports of the Munich Voluntary Association for Protecting the Poor.

#### CHARITABLE RELIEF IN NICE.

From papers recently sent to the Organising Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society, by the Bureau de Bienfaisance et Œuvre de Miséricorde, of Nice, it appears that this institution, though it only received its present constitution from the French Government in 1861, was founded as far back as the year 1300. Since that remote period, this charity has, without interruption, carried on its work, in spite of all the vicissitudes through which the town has passed. The papers in question do not give full particulars as to the financial resources of the Bureau, but they explain that they are partly derived from ancient endowments, partly from collections, and partly from lotteries to be authorised by the Prefet. The income from the first-named source is expended, according to the intentions of the founders, for religious or charitable purposes; sums of £120 are thus annually distributed in clothing; £160 in other forms of charitable relief; and £260 for directly religious objects. The oldest of these endowed charities dates from 1625, and is for providing a dowry for any girl of the same name as the founder, and born in a certain district. Special donations, amounting in all to £793, were received during the last financial year.

The town and its suburbs are divided into five districts, each of which is in charge of a Director of the Bureau, with whom are associated male and female visitors—Commissaires-visiteurs and Dames de Charité. Each Director in turn attends at the office for a week, at a certain hour each day, in order to decide upon urgent cases, the decisions being reported to the Bureau at their monthly meetings. The principles that guide the Bureau in the administration of relief may be briefly indicated as follows:—Inability to work or insufficient incomes are considered to be qualifications for pensions: the cases of incurables being included in the first category, and those of persons incumbered with large families of young children in second; temporary assistance is confined to sick and accident cases, to orphans, and to workmen out of employ for a time.

Persons are only eligible for pensions if of good character and unable to work, but those who belong to provident societies appear to be specially excluded; although the Bureau is prepared, on the other hand, in the cases of persons with insufficient incomes, to subsidise their subscriptions to such societies. The Bureau does not recognise children as belonging to a family unless they have been vaccinated or have had the small-pox, and unless they are either at work or at a parish school.

Temporary medical assistance is given, without previous inquiry, to accident cases, to the sick, and to women in childbirth; but the continuance of, or addition to, this form of relief depends upon the report of the medical officer and upon the result of investigation. A dispensary is attached to the Bureau.—H. H. G.

DEATHS FROM STARVATION—METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.—A recent Parliamentary return (says the *Local Government Chronicle*), moved for by Mr. Talbot, gives the particulars of the deaths in the metropolitan district from starvation &c. during the year 1874. The returns are furnished by the coroners, and eight of the ten give 'nil' returns. The remaining two, Dr. Hardwicke and Mr. Humphreys, return seven and four cases respectively. In not a single instance was the deceased at the time of death in the receipt of out-door relief; but in one case admission to the workhouse had been offered and refused. The returns have been prepared with more care than those of the previous year; but it is still not to be assumed that the deaths are the result of starvation in the ordinary sense of the term. For instance, a man who is stated to be 'aged,' and who dies from 'cancer of the bowels,' and another whose death is caused by 'pneumonia, accelerated by exposure and drink,' are included in the return of Mr. Humphreys. In all the cases there appears to have been some actual disease—such as inflammation, pneumonia, diarrhoea, congestion of the lungs—and it is not easy, therefore, to say how far the deaths were accelerated by want. The returns for 1873 gave 103 deaths from starvation, &c., as against 11 in 1874.



**THE STEWART FAMILY.**—We learn from the *Times* that on the 17th inst. Eliza Stewart was placed at the bar, before Baron Huddleston, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, charged with forging and uttering a cheque for £200.

It was stated that the prisoner, an elderly woman, who was defended by Mr. Wildey Wright, rang the bell of Mr. Joicey's country house, in the neighbourhood of Gateshead, at half-past six in the evening of Friday, the 19th of March, and asked to see Mr. Joicey, and she was admitted to the library, where Mr. Joicey came to see her. She then told him that she wanted to transmit £2 to her son, one Henry Henderson, at Darlington, to enable him to pay a tradesman there that sum early the next day, and she requested him to give her a cheque payable to 'Henry Henderson' in return for two sovereigns, which she produced, since it was too late to get an order at the post-office. After some consideration Mr. Joicey consented to do so, and wrote out and gave her a cheque for £2 on the Newcastle branch of the National Provincial Bank. At a few minutes before one o'clock on the following day (Saturday, the 20th), at a time of great pressure and confusion in the bank, the closing hour being one o'clock, a man, who could not be identified, cashed Mr. Joicey's check, but it had then been very cleverly altered into one for £200, and the man cashing it obtained that sum. The alteration had been made in the following way:—The initial letters 'p o' of the words 'pounds' had been most skilfully altered into a capital H, formed in imitation of those written by Mr. Joicey in the payee's name, and the final 's' altered into 'red.' The word 'pounds' was then written in very good imitation of Mr. Joicey's writing, and in place of a dash which he had put there, and which had been scratched out, and the figures in the check had been altered with equal ingenuity. On the same day a man who called himself Henry Armstrong put the prisoner into lodgings in a house at Jarrow, where she was apprehended on the 16th of April, the man having disappeared as soon as he had put her into the house. Several Post Office and other Directories and £42 in gold were found in the house where she was apprehended, and when charged with the forgery she burst into tears and said that she had 'got the cheque.' The defence was that there was no proof that the prisoner had any guilty intention herself, or was privy to the forgery, whether committed by her son or some other person; but the jury, after a careful summing-up from his Lordship, convicted the prisoner; and it appearing from the evidence of the detective in the case that the prisoner has four children, all of whom have been convicted of offences—the last being a daughter, who was convicted of attempting to obtain money from Captain Milne Home, M.P. for Berwick, some time ago—and that the family is well known in the North of England as 'the Stewart family,' his Lordship sentenced her to seven years' penal servitude.

\* \* The whole of the Stewart family have long been known to the Charity Organisation Society as inveterate begging-letter impostors. The convict Eliza Stewart is the mother of the family, and was previously convicted at Durham on the 5th of January, 1874, on two charges of obtaining money by begging-petitions at Sunderland.

**BEGGING PETITIONS.**—At the Bristol Police Court, on the 17th inst., says the *Bristol Times and Mirror*, a decrepit old man of 55, named John Babb, giving his address as 11 Spring Street, Bedminster, was charged with begging by means of a petition. The petition stated that the prisoner had been paralysed for the last five years, and, disabled from getting his living, he had purchased a cow for the support of his wife and family, and on the 24th of last month he had the misfortune to lose it by the foot-and-mouth disease. Having no other means of procuring an honest livelihood, he humbly appealed to the charitable of the city to aid him in his endeavour to procure another. The smallest subscriptions would be most 'thankfully received.' Mr. H. S. Wright, of Clifton Park Lodge, a member of the firm of Wright and Sons, wine merchants, stated the prisoner called at his office with the petition, but as they had been troubled with a great number of similar documents and had found them to be false, he communicated with the Charity Agency. He was informed by them that they had been engaged in making inquiries concerning the man, and they found he was not known at all in the street which he had given as his address. They therefore recommended him to give the prisoner in charge, which he did. P.C. Giles and an officer of the Charity Organisation Society both stated they had made inquiries in Spring Street, but could not find that anything was known of the prisoner. In reply to the Bench the prisoner admitted his offence, and said he was very sorry for it. Some time ago he met a man named 'Gloster Bob,' who, seeing he was paralysed, said to him, 'Why don't you try and get up a little money?' He told him he had never done or thought of such a thing in his life; upon which Bob said he had got his living by it for the last 20 years. The end of it was that he paid Bob 2s. 6d. for the petition. He did not live in Spring Street, but in Catherine Street, and as to a cow he had never had such a thing. Some of the signatures to the petition were written by 'Gloster Bob,' but others were genuine. Mr. Williams said the writer of the petitions had been brought up at the Court and punished himself. Mr. Goro remarked, according to the results of the prisoner's petition, it brought him in about 10s. a week. The Bench sentenced him to one month's imprisonment, with such hard labour as he might be found capable of doing.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.  
FULHAM UNION—14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, W.  
PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King's Road, S.W.  
ST. GEORGE'S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James's and St. Anno's, Soho)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Barnsbury, N.  
HACKNEY—Old Town Hall, E.  
ST. GILES'S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.  
SHOREDITCH—56 St. John's Road, Hoxton, N.  
BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
WHITECHAPEL UNION—194 Commercial Road, E.  
ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—194 Commercial Road, E.  
STEPNEY UNION—598 Commercial Road, E.  
MILE-END OLD TOWN—116 Mile End Road, E.  
POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.  
ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK—9 St. George's Circus, S.E.  
NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.  
ST. OLAV'S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.  
LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner's Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.  
WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.  
BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.  
CLAPHAM—3 Polygon, S.W.  
CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.  
DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.  
WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter's Hill Road, S.E.  
LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.  
SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the 'Charity Organisation Society,' at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the 'District Committee Aid Fund' of the Council. This fund is now nearly exhausted.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 149.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 13, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

District Committees are reminded that their Annual Reports should be made up to September 30, and should be issued not later than December 1.

The Clapham Committee have removed their office from 3 Polygon to 73 Bromell's Road, Clapham Common.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society held their first meeting after the recess at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: The Earl of Lichfield (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Prendergast, Major O. C. FitzRoy, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., T. Burdett Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Hamilton Hay-Hill, Esq., *Strand*; H. A. Herbert, Esq., Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; A. D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; Major-General Bainbrigge, R.E., *Greenwich*; Lieut.-General Cavenagh, Alsager Hay-Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairmen*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Dr. Hawksley, T. J. Phillips-Jodrell, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 26. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*. C. Roberts, Esq., *Visitor*.

The Secretary reported that Mr. W. M. Alexander had resigned the Hon. Secretaryship of St. George's East Committee.

## THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

He called attention to the action that was being taken under the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act, and to the scheme lately submitted to the Metropolitan Board of Works, as thoroughly in accordance with the recommendations and

anticipations of the Special Committee on Dwellings; and referred to the great loss which those anxious to promote such improvements had sustained in the death of Dr. George Ross.

## NEED OF ASSISTANCE.

Two letters from the City Committee were read, asking whether any member of Council could assist them to get a crippled boy, aged 7, into an institution, or could obtain employment for two elderly men (brothers) who had seen better days.

## REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Reports of the Administrative Committee for the eleven weeks ending October 7 were read. The Committee had met every Thursday during the recess, and there had never been fewer than three members present, exclusive of Secretaries, and rarely so few.

It appeared from the Reports, that from the 29th of July to the 2nd of October, the receipts had been £244. 6s. for the General Fund, and £156. 5s. for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on the 2nd October had been £100. 10s. 1d. and £43. 6s. 3d. respectively.

About 350 Reports of Metropolitan Charities had been received during the recess.

## SCHOOL BOARD CASES.

The Committee was authorised to send out a circular to District Committees, asking for information as to the extent of their co-operation with the School Board.

It was stated, in reply to a question, that a School Board case, under the Arrangement with Mr. Peek, was not necessarily a case in which clothes or boots were applied for, but any case of distress referred by the Divisional Committee of the School Board, and coming within the ordinary rules of the Society as to relief.

## BOARDING-OUT.

A letter was brought up from Miss Preusser, Lady President to the Boarding-out Committees of Troutbeck and Windermere, urging that the Society should form a Special Committee for boarding-out, and open a special fund for the purpose.

Miss Preusser summarised the advantages of boarding-out as follows:—

1. Children would be at once removed from the contact with evil associations, pauperising influences of town and street life, and would grow up in healthy, simple, pure circumstances and surroundings, if placed with respectable, well-to-do cottage people in the country.

2. The sum usually paid for a child when boarded out—£12 a year—is much less than if a child is placed in an orphanage, asylum, institution, or reformatory.

3. A number of useful, plain, good servants would gradually be trained and ready for service in England, which, if so many girls are sent out as emigrants, will be lost to the mother-country.

4. Ladies' Committees in the country, who have in vain appealed to numerous Boards of Guardians to board out pauper children with them,



might be at once intrusted with poor children, known by different branches of the Charity Organisation Society, who by being boarded out would be rescued from becoming paupers, thieves, beggars, or ruined.

As the order of the Local Government Board of November 1870 provides rules and regulations for Boards of Guardians for boarding-out, the same system might be applied with the Committee of the Charity Organisation Society for boarding out, and this would assist in keeping the work in a regular, organised, and legal form.

The Secretary said that he had recently visited a country parish in and near which fifteen children had been boarded out by the Guardians of St. George's (Hanover Square) Union, and that what he had seen and heard had made a most favourable impression on him.

He was instructed to reply to Miss Preusser, that the Council would gladly see the District Committees of the Society exert their influence with the Guardians of their respective Unions to induce them to board out orphan children, or themselves board out any cases which were more suitable for charity than for the Poor Law; but that the Council could not itself undertake such work, whether by means of a Special Committee or otherwise.

#### RESIGNATION OF THE SECRETARY.

A letter from the Secretary was brought up, dated September 30, stating that family circumstances obliged him to give the Administrative Committee notice of resignation, to take effect at the end of two months.

The Chairman read a letter from Sir Charles Trevelyan, expressing his sense of the loss the Society would sustain by the Secretary's resignation, the necessity of which, however, he did not in the least question. The duties which fell to the Secretary were in complexity and difficulty equal to those of an important public department, and he had never known such duties more fully met. Various good qualities were combined in Mr. Bosanquet with a devotion to his charge which induced him to give a great deal more time to it than could reasonably have been expected. Lord Lichfield cordially endorsed all that Sir Charles had said, and called attention to the great importance of every effort being made to strengthen and improve the working of the Society. It was still on its trial, and was far from uniform in its operations.

The following resolution was agreed to, on Lieut.-General Cavenagh's motion, seconded by Dr. Hawksley:—

That the Chairman be requested to convey to Mr. Bosanquet the expression of the sincere regret of the Council at his resignation, and of their deep sense of the value of the services he has rendered to the Society.

It was referred to the Administrative Committee to report as to the best means to be adopted for filling the vacancy.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions have been received from July 29 to October 9, 1875:—*Donations*: The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, £50; George Cubitt, Esq., M.P., £50; The Drapers' Company, £21; A. Elliott, Esq., £1; The Goldsmiths' Company, £100; J. E. Müller, Esq., £1. 1s.; M. H. Sutton, Esq., £1. 1s. *Annual*: Col. the Hon. H. Gage, £2. 2s.; J. R. Hollond, Esq., £10; C. Mackeson, Esq., £1. 1s.; W. J. V. Neale, Esq., £1; Capt. Ross, £1; J. Skinner, Esq., £1. 1s. *Quarterly*: The Hon. W. Warren Vernon, £5. *District Committee Aid Fund*:—*Donations*: R. H. Budden, Esq., £1; Messrs. J. & R. Morley, £50; Paddington Committee, £100; *Annual*: R. S. Holford, Esq., £5. 5s.; *Quarterly*: Francis Peek, Esq., £250.

The following business stands for Monday, October 18:—

To consider recommendation of the Administrative Committee:—

'That a grant of £37. 10s. be made to the East End Financial Committee.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of September 1875 was 33,066, and 48,443 received outdoor relief, making a total of 81,509. This was a decrease of 330 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 9,748, 16,330, and 19,391 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 367. This was an increase of 86 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 84 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, OCTO- BER 9, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	4	1	6	11	..	4	..	4	6	..	..	1	7	22	8	..	18
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	3	4
Paddington .....	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	2	3	..	4	1	8	13	3	5	..
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	1	1	1	3	6	2	3	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	2	5	7	..	2	1	3	3	..	..	..	3	28	7	2	..
Westminster do.	1	2	3	6	1	1	2	4	3	1	..	1	5		2	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	3	1	4	..	9	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	14	3	3	2
St. Marylebone .....	6	..	2	8	1	10	1	12	4	1	..	3	8	28	6	10	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	2	2	1	5	..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	1	..
South St. Pancras .....	3	..	11	14	..	19	..	19	1	..	..	..	1	34	1	4	..
Islington .....	5	..	..	5	1	18	..	19	1	1	..	..	2	26	7	5	1
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..	1	..	..	1	7	7	1	..
Strand .....	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	1	4	7	6	..
Holborn .....	..	..	2	2	..	26	..	26	2	..	..	..	2	30	1	15	1
City .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	3	4	4	7	1
Shoreditch .....	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	3	4	..	2	6	6	10	1	2	1
Bethnal Green .....	2	3	..	5	..	1	..	1	3	..	1	4	4	10	5	2	..
Whitechapel .....	..	1	2	3	2	..	1	3	1	..	..	1	1	7	2	1	..
St. George's-in-the-East	2	1	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	6	5	2	3
Stepney .....	1	..	3	4	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	6	5	4	..
Mile End Old Town ..	2	..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	2	1	3	3	7	..	..	..
Poplar .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
*St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	..	..	4	4	1	2	..	3	4	..	2	..	6	13	1	1	..
St. Olave's .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	4	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	2	..	5	7	7	15	3	4	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	3		5	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3	1	1	6
Battersea .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	5	1	1	8
Clapham .....	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	2	2	..	1	3	3	8	6	3	9
Camberwell:—																	
*Grove Lane .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	..	..	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..
Greenwich .....	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	3	3	5	3	2	9
Deptford .....	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	5
*Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lewisham .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	3	4	1	14
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Sydenham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	4
Total .....	34	22	51	107	6	116	13	135	45	17	8	19	89	331	96	94	91

\* No returns received from these Committees at time of going to press.

#### THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

Papers on the Organisation of Charity, General and Parochial, and on the Best Modes of dealing with Destitute Children, were read and discussed at a sectional meeting of the Church Congress at Stoke on the evening of Tuesday the 4th inst., but not more than 100 persons were present; a discussion on Temperance, with Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P., and the Rev. Basil Wilberforce as openers, having been fixed for the same hour in the Congress Hall. Mr. Dimmock, chairman of the Stoke Board of Guardians, presided.

Mr. Henry Longley read the first paper. It was obvious, he observed (we quote from the *Staffordshire Daily Sentinel*) that while vast sums, sufficient materially to alleviate, if not to remove, the pressing needs of the poor, were bestowed in almsgiving, the general condition of the recipients was not improved in a degree at all corresponding to the expenditure. Effective almsgiving, he would remind them, consisted not in mere giving, but in giving wisely; and in that was implied a knowledge, a power of research, an accumulation of experience, which would be secured only by an expenditure of time which was practically incompatible with the exigencies of individual cases of distress; for isolated almsgiving involved a waste of power which had suggested the remedy commonly resorted to in more purely mechanical spheres of work—namely, division of labour. It was within the sphere of charity organisation to assist other charitable agencies by the prosecution of searching inquiries, for alms should be given only as the result of inquiry. Any system would at once be condemned which imposed any barrier between the rich and poor, and that system would seem to serve the best interests of both which, while it rendered inquiry essential, would also support personal intercourse between the receiver and the actual bestower of the alms. A sounder administration of the Poor Laws could be rendered possible by the organisation of charity, and this would be a great benefit to the working classes, for a rise in the condition, social and moral, of the poor would be



found to result from this. While that was not the place to discuss Poor Law principles, he would set down the following propositions—(1) that to administer in an unduly eligible form the legal relief which the recipient may claim in some form or other as a right, will inevitably tend to diminish the independence of the poor; (2) that none but indoor relief is sufficiently ineligible and deterrent to prevent this consequence of its receipt; and (3) that the rate of wages is distinctly kept below its natural level by the existence of out-relief, whether given directly in aid of wages or earnings, or held out in the future as a substitute for, and so a dissuasive from, thrift and providence. Mr. Longley concluded by recommending that trustees of endowed charities should make more use of the machinery of Charity Organisation Societies.

The Rev. J. F. Kitto, Rector of Whitechapel, read the second paper. It not unfrequently happened that patient, unpretending poverty was overlooked, while barefaced hypocrisy was permitted to flourish; there was, however, a tendency in the organisation of charity to develop a formal and official mode of distribution, from which all true sympathy was excluded. What was wanted was more personal service, and not less. When the element of love was wanting on one side or the other, the inevitable tendency of the so-called charity was to pauperise and degrade. If the applicant was to have the whole of his past history hunted out, and be relieved by unsympathetic officials, it did not matter much whether aid came from the Poor Law or a charity fund; but he claimed more sympathy for the poor and deserving. It was part of Christian tenderness and Christian love to shrink from no effort and to spare no service by which the poor might be cared for and the lost reclaimed, and there was no class which called for more organised effort than the class of destitute children. A good deal had already been done to meet the most pressing needs of that class, as was evinced in the work carried on at workhouses, district schools, orphanage houses, and similar institutions; but surely, while the State had provided that no parent in the future should neglect his children by allowing them to grow up wholly untaught, it should also not allow them to neglect their duty as parents in other respects, so as to cause the rising generation to be a source of danger to the whole community. He hoped that some provision would be made to save the helpless children of bad parents from irretrievable ruin. But, apart from the State, the Church of Christ had a recognised duty with respect to destitute children. They were helpless from no fault of their own, and had, therefore, a strong claim upon their Christian benevolence and regard, and one that might be manifested in various ways. When children left the workhouse school, some communication might be addressed, either to the clergyman of the parish, or some central agency called into existence for that special purpose, and by that way a supervision could be kept over the children; or they could work to rescue such children from workhouse control altogether; for why should destitute children be left to a pauper life, when a practical mode of rescuing was opened out to them? Could not Christian sympathy come to the rescue, and relieve Guardians of the care of destitute children? (Applause.)

Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet (London) said there was but little he differed from in the papers which had been read, and there were many matters he should like to emphasise. Mr. Longley had given a true definition when he described charity organisation as a division of labour—it was an attempt to bring about a division of charitable labour. How far was this possible? It was possible, in the first place, to organise information in regard both to individual cases of distress, and to the agencies most likely to assist them. To make co-operation in charitable work possible there must be some agreement as to principles—hence some principles had come to be associated with the organisation of charity. First among these he would place the necessity for relief being rendered, as far as possible, effectual and remedial. In London it had been much too easy, in some parts, for a person who asked assistance to get a shilling, while it was extremely difficult to get a pound; yet if a pound could be got in some cases it would be really valuable, whereas the shilling was often mischievous. It was a mistake to suppose that charity organisation societies were intended to give relief vicariously for the public. Very much more personal work was needed in this matter; and what was desired was to bring about such a change that there would be more intercourse between the rich and the poor; yet, in such intercourse, the rich should be prepared to visit without dispensing relief at once, which he knew was not easy. Visitors should be prepared to face disagreeables. They should combine sympathy for the individual with farsightedness and regard for general rules. It was desirable that there should be some more precise division of labour between Industrial Schools and the Poor-law. In dealing with children, parental responsibility should not be disturbed without strong reason. In closing, the speaker strongly recommended the boarding-out of pauper children. It was a most admirable system for a limited class of cases, chiefly for orphan girls. The subject was of special interest to the Congress, from the fact that none were so well able to work such a scheme as the clergy; and that it gave their weekly wage-earning parishioners an opportunity of co-operating with them in doing a most Christian work, and one which was charity in the highest sense. (Applause.)

Commander Dawson, R.N., gave some particulars with regard to the

boarding-out system in Ireland. He explained that the children were placed with cottagers in their own parish or diocese, with a family recommended by the clergyman. Before payment was made for the child a certificate as to its attendance at the parochial school, and that it had been regularly visited, must be produced. The children grew up, under such a system, without all their hearts' affections being crushed out of them. The system of putting children by hundreds into a sort of large prison was deplorable, and tended to crush out all the affections of the young heart. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. E. J. Edwards (Trentham) said that the system just advocated had been partially carried out in his own neighbourhood; and there certainly was great advantage in destitute children, and especially orphans, being brought up in all the habits of cottage homes. While a good deal has been said with regard to the blessings of charity to the destitute, people were extremely apt to forget that it was necessary for themselves that they should be brought into close contact with poverty and suffering. (Hear, hear.) It was essential to the formation of Christian character not only to part with their money for charitable purposes, but to come hand-to-hand in connection with the poor, so as to learn what it was to sympathise with their wants. The boarding-out system seemed to have a difficulty in making its way. For orphan girls especially, he thought the system could be easily and well worked; and if attention were not paid to such unfortunates, it was little less than a shame. It would be a good thing if the clergy would co-operate with boards of guardians with regard to this matter. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman remarked that much had been said with regard to what had been done for the poor, but not a word as to how much the poor did themselves to alleviate the wants of the poor. (Hear, hear.) There never was a time in which friendly societies—originated by the working classes themselves—enrolled more members, or gave more in the way of contributions. The working classes contributed in various ways to the wellbeing of their fellow working-men; and no doubt, amongst other things, trades-unions had very largely promoted the welfare of the working classes. Great advantages had resulted from working-men having the management and control of societies which so greatly affected themselves. The training which working-men got by managing trades-unions and friendly societies seemed to him to be one of the most hopeful signs of the times. (Hear, hear.) While there was so much of pauperism existing, it was a matter for gratification that working-men were doing so much themselves for the benefit of those of their own class. Having been himself a large employer of labour, he felt he ought in all fairness to say what he considered was justly due to the working-man with regard to the question which had been discussed. (Applause.)

THE FIRST SCHEME UNDER THE ARTISANS AND LABOURERS' DWELLINGS ACT, 1875.—At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, on the 1st inst., the chief engineer (Sir J. W. Bazalgette) and Mr. G. Vulliamy, the superintending architect, presented an important report on the proposed improvement of an unhealthy area adjoining Gray's-inn-road. The report, after reviewing what has been done by the various Dwellings Improvement Associations, and stating that much useful information had been obtained from the report of the Dwellings Committee of the Charity Organisation Society, and from a paper by Mr. Charles Gatliff, gives particulars with reference to the area in question, as to which an official representation had been made to the Board by the medical officer of the Holborn District Board of Works on the 19th of July last. The area is bounded by Gray's-inn-road on the west, Leather Lane on the east, Portpool Lane on the north, and Greville Street with Fox Court on the south, and contains 10½ acres, nearly three-fourths of which is covered by a low class of houses, courts, and alleys 'unfit for human habitation, owing to their closeness, narrowness, and bad condition.' The report proposes to remove these houses, and to replace them by twenty-two blocks of buildings, surrounded by paved open spaces averaging thirty feet in width, and connected by streets and footways. It is proposed to take advantage of this opportunity to widen a part of Gray's-inn-road from thirty to fifty feet. Some difficulty has been experienced in ascertaining accurately the numbers of the present resident population, but it is believed that the labouring population living upon the area to be dealt with is 5,515, one-half of whom are adults and the other half children. They occupy 335 houses, averaging six rooms per house, or a total of 2,102 rooms:—981 rooms are let in single tenements to 981 families, numbering 3,218 persons, averaging 3.28 persons per room; 766 rooms are let in two-room tenements to 383 families, numbering 1,795 persons, averaging 2.34 persons per room; 355 rooms are let in three or more room tenements to 97 families, numbering 502 persons, averaging 1.4 persons per room, being a total of 2,102 rooms let to 1,461 families, numbering 5,515 persons, averaging 2.62 persons per room, with 132 empty rooms, making a total of 2,234. In addition to these there are four registered lodging-houses, containing 43 rooms and accommodating 144 persons. The cubic space per head varies from 284 to 900 cubic feet, and averages 540 cubic feet. This amount of house-room bears a favourable



comparison with what has been provided by the various model lodging-houses constructed within the Metropolis with such satisfactory results, so that, in fact, the miserable condition of the locality is not due to the overcrowding of the houses, but is attributable to the narrow courts, and want of proper ventilation, cleanliness, and sanitary arrangements. It is proposed to deal with the  $10\frac{1}{2}$  acres included within the unhealthy area in the following manner:— $2\frac{3}{4}$  acres of factories and other buildings mentioned in the scheme will remain undisturbed; one-third of an acre will be given up to the rebuilding of schools to be removed by this improvement scheme; one acre will be applied to the widening of Gray's-inn-road and the buildings facing it;  $2\frac{3}{4}$  acres to the formation of new thoroughfares within the area to be dealt with; and two acres to be left in spaces for air and recreation between the new buildings, so that the open spaces over the whole area will amount to about  $4\frac{3}{4}$ , instead of the now existing open spaces of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres only. The new labourers' dwellings will cover an area of about two acres. It would doubtless be economy of space, say the writers of the report, if the basement were converted into playgrounds for children in wet weather, and for the storage of the costermongers' barrows; but the difficulty of keeping such underground premises clean, and from being abused and used as receptacles for refuse, and thus converted into disease-breeding nuisances, has induced us to forego this advantage, and we propose to provide for these requirements by roofs to be formed over a part of the otherwise open spaces. By the foregoing arrangements we shall obtain a covered area for labourers' dwellings of about 15 square feet per individual; and, as we propose to provide not less than 500 cubic feet of air per adult within the new buildings, it will become necessary that each house should contain on the average five separate floors or flats, which will average about nine feet in height from floor to floor, and give a mean superficial area of about 150 square feet for living rooms and 100 square feet for bedrooms. The rooms may be divided into tenements of one, two, and three rooms each, probably in the following proportions:—1,000 of one room, or two smaller at one-room rents; 400, two rooms; 100, three rooms. But our object at the present time is to develop the practicability of effecting an efficient improvement scheme upon the area to be cleared in pursuance of the requirements of the new Act, and upon which to form an estimate of the cost, rather than definitely to determine the details of the improved buildings, which may hereafter, under certain general regulations to meet the requirements of the poor, be modified by those who shall undertake their erection. The rents now paid at Holborn for one room vary from 1s. 6d. to 4s. per week; for two rooms, from 3s. to 5s.; and for three rooms, from 7s. 6d.; giving an average of 2s. 11d. per room, and producing a total rent of £16,000 per annum. It would seem to be an essential feature of this project that the present rental should not be increased, and we have, therefore, in forming our estimates, adopted it as our standard. Under the Metropolitan Street Improvements Act, 1872, the Board is about to provide spaces for the erection of dwellings for the artisans who will be displaced by the pulling-down of the old houses. One of these spaces in Liquorpond Street is already cleared, and, being close to the Holborn area now under consideration, it would, if the new buildings were at once erected, be available for the reception of some of the persons who must be turned out for the present improvement scheme. But the Secretary of State is unable to sanction the building on this site until all the plots of land intended to be covered by artisans' dwellings have been actually acquired. So far as we can judge, it certainly cannot be less, and will probably be more, than a year, before all these plots are actually obtained. The delay thus occasioned will to a very great extent defeat the object of the new buildings, which are to accommodate those artisans who have had to quit their dwellings. But as those will have been driven to seek new homes at a distance from their old ones, and many of them will have found employment elsewhere and never return, the new houses will become inhabited by a fresh set of people. We are of opinion, therefore, that if it is possible, the difficulty should be removed, and these spaces should, as soon as practicable, be covered with such buildings, so that not only may the poorer classes who may have been displaced by the street improvement be provided with houses, but that some, at least, of those who must be temporarily removed by the present improvement scheme may find accommodation there; and we recommend that not more than about one-fifth of the present population of the Holborn area should be displaced at one time, nor the remainder, after the first fifth, until the new accommodation has been provided for that fifth. With regard to the cost of the improvement scheme suggested in this report, we estimate approximately the expenditure and return as follow:—For widening of Gray's Inn Road.—Purchase of property, £——; paving works, £5,000. For the improvement scheme, exclusive of the cost of widening Gray's Inn Road.—Purchase of property, gross, £187,500; formation of new streets, drainage, &c., £17,000; erecting proposed dwellings, £170,000:—total expenditure, £374,500. Upon the assumption that the new rents will be equivalent to the present rental, or £16,000 per annum, and that persons will be found to erect the required houses upon a return of 5 per cent. interest on the outlay, the annual expenditure will stand thus:—The Board would have to expend, in money borrowed for the purchase of property, £187,500, at

£3. 17s. 6d. per cent., £7,266; ditto, for forming roadways and sewers, £17,000, at £3. 17s. 6d. per cent., £700; total, £7,966. And would receive in return ground-rents valued at, per annum, £4,500; leaving a deficit of, say, £3,466 per annum, to be paid out of the rates in respect of this improvement scheme. The society erecting the buildings would pay interest on £170,000, at 5 per cent., £8,500; rates and taxes, £1,800; repairing, &c., £1,250; ground-rents, £4,500—total, £16,050. Present rents, £16,000.

The Report was brought up again on the 8th inst., and was referred to the Works and General Purposes Committee for consideration and report. Several other 'official representations' about areas in various parts of London have been made to the Board, and others are to be sent in shortly, so that the necessary Parliamentary notices may be given before the end of November.

DEATH OF DR. ROSS.—Another valuable life (says the *Metropolitan*) has been sacrificed to the foul emanations of drains. Dr. George Ross, the medical officer of health for Bloomsbury, died on Sunday, September 25, from syncope, while suffering from heart-disease and blood-poisoning. According to his own statement just before his death, it appears he had been over a drain in the back of his premises in Hart-street, Bloomsbury, and he inhaled some of the gas, and he said he had never come in contact with such a smell before. No one can be blamed for the occurrence, but it is sad to think that this is the third physician who has had his life taken from him through sewer emanations. Dr. Ross was an able, deep-thinking physician, and had only lately compiled a set of admonitory rules for guidance in dealing with unhealthy dwellings, in connection with the Artisans' Dwellings Act. At this time, when the local authorities of the metropolis are seeking to put the above Act in force, so able a man as Dr. Ross can be ill-spared. His connection with local government began some 20 years ago, when (says the *British Medical Journal*) "he became a member of the Corporation of London, taking an active part in all sanitary business, such as improving the dwellings of the poor, establishing baths and washhouses, and especially in bringing to a successful issue the project of covering Smithfield with a new dead-meat market, for which, on his retirement from the Common Council, a testimonial was presented to him by the wardmote which he represented. In the year 1869 Dr. Ross was appointed Medical Officer of Health for St. Giles's and Bloomsbury, which post he held, with the highest credit and usefulness, until his death." Dr. Ross was an active member of the Special Dwellings Committee of the Charity Organisation Society.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

'Parochial Charities of the City of London.' The substance of an address delivered at Sion College, May 27, 1875, by the Rev. H. I. Cummins, M.A. King & Co.

Report of the Fifth Annual Poor Law Conference of the West Midland Counties, held at Great Malvern, May 4, 1875. Knight & Co. 6d.

Report of the First Annual Poor Law Conference of the London Guardians, held at the rooms of the Social Science Association, July 12, 1875. Knight & Co. 6d.

Report of the Fourth Annual Poor Law Conference for the four Northern Counties, held at Carlisle 4th and 5th August, 1875. Knight & Co. 6d.

Eighteenth Report of the Inspector of Certified Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Great Britain. 1s. 9d.

'Homes of the London Poor,' by Miss Octavia Hill. Macmillan & Co. 3s. 6d.

'Children Rescued from Pauperism; or, The Boarding-out System in Scotland,' by W. Anderson. Menzies & Co., Edinburgh; and Simpkin, Marshall, & Co., London.

ANNUAL REPORTS of the DISTRICT COMMITTEES for 1874, bound up with the SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COUNCIL, price 2s. 6d., post free 3s., can be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 150.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 20, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

It is requested that communications to the Council or District Committees in regard to different cases or subjects may be written on separate pieces of paper. Also, that communications with reference to cases may not be written on Post-Cards.

Any Member of the Council who has borrowed a copy of the Report of the Poor Law Commissioners, 1834, or of Dr. Chalmers' 'Christian and Civic Economy of Large Towns,' from the Library at the Central Office, is requested to send the Secretary information.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: A. H. Hill, Esq. (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Major Prendergast, Major FitzRoy, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Lady Wilson, Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. Hay-Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., C. Lavers-Smith, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., A. D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Parry-Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth*; G. P. Bidder, Esq., Q.C., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Captain Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; Stephen Fuller, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 33. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from Lord Lichfield, regretting that business in the country prevented him from being present.

## BOARDING-OUT.

The Chairman called attention to the report of the proceedings under this head in the last *Reporter*. He had only understood the Council to express willingness to leave the matter in the hands of the District Committees.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson thought it hardly within the scope of a District Committee to board children out.

The Secretary had understood that the Council had sanctioned an expression of opinion in favour of boarding-out orphans, though no formal decision had been taken; he had replied to Miss Preusser in this sense. He had said nothing in his reply about Organisation Committees boarding cases out themselves. It was hardly within their scope to do this, though they might make arrangements to facilitate its being done by private individuals.

## HOSPITAL LETTERS.

A letter from the Whitechapel Committee was read, asking for two In-Patient letters for the Victoria Park or any other Hospital for Diseases of the Chest.

A member stated that patients taking Out-Patient letters to the Victoria Park Hospital, but requiring treatment in the Hospital, were generally admitted.

Miss Collett asked for assistance in obtaining letters for the Surgical Aid Society. Thirty letters were required by an applicant whose case had been inquired into by the South St. Pancras Committee, and the Committee were endeavouring to obtain them, but had only as yet got three.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson protested against the system pursued by the Society in question.

The Secretary mentioned that a letter for the Eastbourne Convalescent Hospital had been recently received.

## THE SOCIETY'S BALANCE-SHEET.

Attention was called to a statement by Mr. W. H. Pannell in the *City Press*, that balances to the amount of £13 8s. had been omitted to be brought forward in the Society's accounts.

The Secretary explained that this did not apply to the accounts of the Council—still less would such an error affect the accounts of the whole Society, as most readers of Mr. Pannell's letter would be led to suppose. Mr. Pannell had summarised the accounts for three years of the Council and of the 37 District Committees, collecting them from 38 separate reports, but not stating that these 38 bodies were financially independent of each other. If errors had been made, they would only affect the balance-sheets of the District Committees which had made them.

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CASES.

Mr. Edgcombe asked what amount of inquiry it was the practice of District Committees to make in regard to cases for the Children's Hospital. His own Committee (*Kensington*) had only had 34 applications; they had always verified the statement brought to them as to wages, and had gone to the Relieving Officer whenever there was any chance of the family being in receipt of parish relief.



Miss Collett said that the South St. Pancras Committee had inquired into more than 300 cases. They proceeded exactly in the manner described by Mr. Edgcombe. The Children's Hospital had authorised them to stamp the letter, if any discrepancy that there might be between the statement brought to them and the facts was explained to their satisfaction.

Several other members said that their Committees made similar inquiries.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending October 9 the receipts had been £1 for the General Fund, and £250 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £90 2s. 8d. and £293 6s. 3d. respectively.

Also, that they had authorised the Organising Secretary to attend the annual meeting of the Winchester Association on Thursday the 28th inst.

#### THE SECRETARYSHIP.

The following recommendation was brought up, in reply to the reference made last week:—

That as the duties of Secretary to the Society require special qualifications, and as the ordinary course of giving notice by advertisement would lead to a very large number of applications from candidates whose testimonials would have little bearing upon the special qualifications required, the Administrative Committee recommend that a small committee, consisting of the Chairman, the Duke of Westminster, as representing the Vice-Presidents, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Lieut.-General Cavenagh, and Mr. Bosanquet, be appointed, to suggest to the Council the names of a few persons whose views upon the subject of legal and voluntary relief are in agreement with the principles upon which the Charity Organisation Society was established, and who are known to have taken special interest in measures tending to induce habits of self-reliance and providence among the poorer classes.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson thought that, having regard to suggestions that had been made, it was expedient to extend the reference. He would move, as an amendment:—

That the following members of Council be appointed a Committee, to consider and report on the best course to be taken in reference to the vacancy created by the resignation of the Secretary: The Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Lichfield, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Lieut.-General Cavenagh, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Mr. A. H. Hill, Mr. J. R. Hollond, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet.

Mr. A. D. Graham seconded the amendment, and urged the importance of attending to District Organisation work.

Mr. Hensley pointed out that there was no time to be lost if the Secretary was to have any opportunity of introducing his successor to his duties.

After some further discussion the amendment was put and carried, 15 voting for it.

It was resolved that a grant of £18 15s. be made to the East End Financial Committee towards the salary of a collector for the quarter ending December 31.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending October 16, 1875:—*Donations*: Captain G. W. Cockburn, £1; Rev. W. A. Wall, £1. *Annual*: A. J. Bingham, Esq., £2 2s.; Mrs. Greathed, £1.

The following business stands for Monday, October 25:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. 'That a grant of £20 on account be made to the Mile End Committee.'
2. 'That a grant of £20 on account be made to the Whitechapel Committee.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of October 1875 was 33,223, and 48,315 received outdoor relief, making a total of 81,538. This was an increase of 29 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 19,545, 16,288, and 9,653 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 479. This was an increase of 112 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 86 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1875.	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment				
Kensington .....	3	7	3	13	2	2	2	..	..	2	17	10	4
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	3	5
Paddington .....	2	..	3	5	6	2	4	1	3	8	21	8	6
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	1	2	6	3	6
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division.	1	..	..	1	3	3	3	1	..	4	16	4	2
Westminster do.	2	..	..	2	3	5	1	..	..	1	..	1	..
Westminster:—													
St. James's & St. Anne's	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Marylebone .....	2	1	5	8	7	7	1	1	2	4	19	6	8
Hampstead .....	2	..	1	3	2	1	2	3	..	5	11	..	5
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	9	1	1	11	4	1	2	..	..	2	18	8	2
South St. Pancras .....	2	1	4	7	10	10	1	..	1	2	19	1	2
*Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	..	..	7	7	..	..	..	..	7	1	2
Strand .....	1	..	1	2	1	1	2	1	..	3	5	2	3
Holborn .....	..	..	8	8	24	24	..	..	..	..	32	..	11
City .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	2	3	5	1
Shoreditch .....	1	4	5	10	1	1	2	2	1	3	9	..	5
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	3	6	2	2	1	..	..	1	6	1	2
Whitechapel .....	3	4	7	14	1	2	1	..	..	1	10	4	1
St. George's-in-the-East	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stepney .....	1	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	2
Mile End Old Town ..	1	5	6	12	..	..	1	4	..	5	11	..	2
Poplar .....	2	3	5	10	1	1	3	1	..	4	10	..	4
St. Saviour's .....	3	2	12	17	1	6	2	..	6	8	35	3	9
*Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	2
Lambeth:—													
North .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	4
South .....	1	1	2	4	2	2	1	..	1	2	..	2	..
*Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Battersea .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	1	..	..	1	4	..	1
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	8
Camberwell:—													
*Grove Lane .....	..	4	4	8	1	1	6	..	..	6	12	1	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Greenwich .....	1	..	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	7	4	19
Deptford .....	1	..	1	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	3	..	..
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	..	13
Lewisham .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	2	..	3	3	18
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Sydenham .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Total .....	34	20	64	118	5	84	34	23	5	17	79	300	70

\* No returns received from these Committees at time of going to press.

#### SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday the 7th inst. a paper by Mr. Charles W. Chambers, on 'Certain Desirable Alterations in the Working of the Poor Law System,' was read in the Economy and Trade Section of the Social Science Congress at Brighton, Dr. Farr presiding. The writer, after referring to his experience as a member of the St. George's Committee of the Charity Organisation Society, discussed, amongst other matters, the question how far charitable aid should be given on the principles of the Charity Organisation Society, under its three cardinal rules, namely—Relief: 1. By a competent committee; 2. After due inquiry; 3. With a view to permanent benefit. This might be generally introduced concurrently with the Poor Law System. The idea, as shown by Lord Lyttelton in his paper in the *Contemporary Review* of last June, 'was contemplated by the Commissioners and their best followers.' A plan of the kind was suggested by the Rev. A. Hare in the 'Guesses at Truth,' at the time of the Brede disturbances, and by others. But in the present state of society, it could only be rendered possible by creating in each Poor Law district a charitable centre, consisting of an able Board, aiming at the permanent benefit of the poor, which can discuss cases with authority from a high moral and social point of view, and who should have such means at their disposal as should prevent their being imposed upon—and further who should by this means have the confidence of those disposed to help their poorer neighbours to better their conditions.

Mr. C. J. Ribton-Turner read a paper before the same section on establishing County Poor Law Boards. He suggested that in every county there should be established, by law, one or more Central Boards of Guardians (according to the size of the county), the members of which should be elected by the Local Boards of Guardians, and should hold periodic meetings, either at some central point in the county, or at each workhouse in it in turn. The functions of such Boards should be:—To frame a code (subject to the approval of the Local Government Board) for securing, so far as possible,



uniform principles of administration throughout the county; to bring about a better classification of inmates of the workhouses by arrangements among the Unions; to establish tests for securing the efficiency of all officers appointed by the local Guardians; to register the requirements of employers of labour throughout the county, with a view to provide destitute persons, in receipt of Poor Law relief, with the means of making themselves self-dependent. One great advantage of such Boards would be that their members would have a wider view of the great interests involved in the relief of the poor than a Local Board of Guardians, which is likely to confine its attention to the apparent wants of its own neighbourhood, and is thus led to violate the true principles of Poor Law administration, with the result of increasing pauperism.

On Monday the 11th inst., a paper was read in the same department by Mr. A. H. Hill, on the question: 'What means are practicable for checking the aggregation and determination of unemployed labour in large towns?' suggesting the establishment of a Central Labour Exchange with a Labour Loan Society, and night classes in connection with it, and a paper by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, on the mode of admission into charitable institutions.

#### AFFILIATED COUNTRY ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received the following returns from Associations affiliated to the Society, showing the number of cases they have decided during the quarter ending Saturday, September 25, 1875:—

	Derby	Brighton	Chester	Eton	Glasgow	Horsham	Kingston-on-Thames	Oxford	Reading	Scarborough	Wimborne	Winchester
<b>CLASS I.</b>												
Dismissed, or unfavourably reported on, as—												
1. Not requiring relief	11	2	..	..	11	..	..	2	1	1	1	..
2. Undeserving	24	17	4	1	84	1	..	7	4	4	1	1
3. Cases for Poor-law, or otherwise ineligible	10	13	5	..	14	1	1	10	5	23	..	3
	45	32	9	1	109	2	1	19	10	28	2	4
<b>CLASS II.</b>												
Recommended to—												
1. The Guardians	7	2	7	..	9	..	..	2	1	..	..	1
2. Institutions or Local Agencies	9	3	..	2	15	..	..	6	..	1	..	..
3. Private Persons	7	5	9	3	42	..	1	4	1	..	2	..
	23	10	16	5	66	..	1	12	2	1	2	1
<b>CLASS III.</b>												
Assisted by—												
1. Grants	43	13	8	..	2	3	..	8	6	28	1	3
2. Loans	..	..	..	4	1	..	1	25	..	4	..	2
3. Employment	4	..	1	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
4. Letters for Hospitals, &c.	..	14	..	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..
	47	27	9	9	5	3	1	36	7	32	1	7
	115	69	34	15	180	5	3	67	19	61	5	12
Reports sent out	6	53	..	..	95	..	..	25	..	..	9	..
Inquiries for other Associations and Committees	4	15	..	1	4	..	..	2	4	..	2	..
Vagrants dealt with	12	426	30	178	..	..	143	52	16	50	199	..

**DORSET MENDICITY SOCIETY.**—The number of vagrant admissions to the 13 Unions of Dorset, during the quarter ending 30th September, amounted to only 364. This is the lowest number ever recorded in any quarter; and, as compared with the corresponding quarter in the year previous to the formation of the Society, shows the large reduction of 83 per cent.:—

Vagrants relieved in the Casual Wards of Dorset, Quarter ending	
30th September, 1869	2,164
Corresponding quarter, 1875	364

#### ORGANISATION *versus* RELIEF.

The following letter from Mr. W. H. Pannell, a member of the firm of accountants who audit the accounts of Miss Stride's Homes, appeared, during the recess, in the *Beehive*, and (with the initials 'W. H. P.') in the *Standard* and *Metropolitan*:—

Sir,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your valuable journal, to draw the attention of the public to a few circumstances in connection with the Charity Organisation Society? And I must preface my remarks by saying that I was induced to make the investigation which led to the following disclosures by an inclination to test the working of a society which professes to be the perfection of charitable institutions, and which is continually contrasting its work with others of a similar nature to the apparent detriment of the latter.

Well, Sir, on carefully analysing the accounts contained in the society's own reports, extending from 1st October, 1871, to 30th September, 1874, I find the following results:—On October 1, 1871, the society had a balance in hand of £2,646 18s. 4d., and between that date and the latter mentioned above the total receipts for donations, subscriptions, &c., amounted so

£45,321 8s. 5d.; total, £47,968 6s. 9d. This sum was expended as follows, viz.:—By salaries to officers and collectors' poundage, £15,781 0s. 5½d.; rent, rates, and taxes, £3,904 17s. 7½d.; office fixtures, fittings, &c., including repairs, £764 0s. 9½d.; sundries—viz., postages, printing, and incidental expenses—£6,854 5s. 1¾d.; total expenses for the three years, £27,304 4s. By loans granted (£5,090 8s. 2½d.), less amount refunded (£4,114 15s. 3d.), £975 12s. 11½d.; aid in grants and relief, £16,265 3s. 0¼d.; total grants for relief, £17,240 15s. 11¾d. Balance in hand 30th September, 1874, £3,423 6s. 9¼d.—£47,968 6s. 9d.

So that of the £45,321 8s. 5d. received, £27,304 4s., or about 60¼ per cent., was absorbed in expenses of administration. Surely this is a most extravagant and expensive way of affording relief to our fellow-creatures. That a sum of 12s. in each pound should be first expended to procure a deserving recipient for the remaining 8s., seems to me to be carrying the principle of investigation to extremes, and inclines me to think that even indiscriminate charity, much as it is to be deprecated, would be preferable.

I beg to hand you herewith a copy of the complete statement, and to enclose my card.

The following letters appeared in the *Standard* in reply:—

Sir,—In the absence from town of all the leading members of the Charity Organisation Society, will you allow me, a working member, a small space in which to express to your correspondent, 'W. H. P.,' my thanks for so plainly showing that the Charity Organisation Society is doing the work which it has undertaken. As he says he has carefully analysed the accounts, I have no doubt his figures are accurate. But if he had as carefully studied the lists of cases dealt with, he would have seen that a large proportion of those found deserving are referred to private persons or charitable agencies. He would not then have drawn the wrong conclusion—'That it is a disclosure of extravagance.' The society does not 'profess' to be 'a charitable institution' at all in the sense of being a relief society. Its objects have been clearly set forth again and again, but allow me to enclose one of their manuals. By this 'W. H. P.' will see that 'The main object of the society is the improvement of the condition of the poor: (1) by bringing about co-operation between the charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the charities; (2) by securing due investigation and fitting action in all cases; and (3) by repressing mendicancy.' Relief is not even mentioned. Unfortunately, in some cases, after careful investigation, and having found that a person is deserving, the committees are unable to find any private person or charitable agency to afford the necessary relief, and are, therefore, obliged to give assistance out of their own funds. Were this not the case, besides the £27,304 4s. which 'W. H. P.' complains has already been spent in investigation, there would be the sum of £18,017 4s. 5d. still in hand, which would be most useful in further developing the great work of charity organisation.—I enclose my card, and beg to subscribe myself,

AN HONORARY SECRETARY OF FIVE YEARS' SERVICE.

Sir,—As one for whom the Charity Organisation Society has done a great deal of work gratuitously, allow me, on behalf of the well-deserving poor, to bear witness to its value. The worst enemies of the poor are those who give without inquiry. Your correspondent 'W. H. P.' complains of an organising society for doing the work it undertakes—viz., organisation. Does he 'quarrel with food for not being fuel?' The society gives to those who would not be reached by any other charitable agency, and in this way relieves an immense amount of misery.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Sir,—The *Standard* of the 11th inst., containing a letter on the Charity Organisation Society, has just reached me. I shall be obliged if you will allow me to point out that 'W. H. P.' misconceives the object and position of the society, and to furnish some information, without which those of your readers who are unacquainted with its nature can hardly arrive at a fair decision.

First, let me explain that the society consists of 37 local committees and a central representative council; each of these 38 bodies has separate funds, and reports separately to its subscribers, though the council and the richer committees assist those in the poorer districts.

But 'W. H. P.'s' charge has reference to the small proportion of money expended on relief rather than to the amount raised. Had he paid the same attention to the reports which he has paid to their balance-sheets, he could not have failed to see that this charge has been anticipated and answered again and again. The Society was not formed to be an additional relief society; its relief-work is only supplementary, and it would be more reasonable to say, as some of its staunchest supporters have said, that it is departing from its original objects and interfering with other charities by relieving so many cases itself, than to measure it by a standard appropriate to a society formed simply for the relief of distress.

Let me put the matter in another light. If the Society desired to be the great relief society of London, as 'W. H. P.' would have you believe, its policy would be to ignore other relief societies, and to do as much relief-work as possible itself. Desiring, as it does, to promote division of labour amongst such charities, and to co-operate with them rather than do their work for them, it lays itself out to assist them, places its machinery for



inquiry at their service without charge, refers every case to them which it is likely that they will be able to deal with effectually, and when obliged to make a grant itself, frequently sends it through their visitors. Were the Society's ideal realised, it would spend less than it does now in direct relief, but it would do more work for the Relief Societies, and comparison would lie between the expenditure of all the Charitable Societies of London on relief and the expenditure of the Organisation Society on machinery, rather than between the amounts expended by the Organisation Society on these two objects. I should like (if I may express my own opinion) to see all direct relief-work done by agencies working over smaller areas than the district committees of the Organisation Society, and distinct from them, but co-operating with them. Would there, in this case, be work enough for the Organisation Society and its committees to do? I believe that those who have considered the conditions and requirements of London carefully will say, confidently, that there would. Few people realise to themselves what 'London' means. It is difficult to realise three millions and a half of people. It conveys a clearer impression to say that our 37 committees have each of them, on an average, not much less than 100,000 persons in their respective districts. Ought not each such district to have an office in it, open all the year round, to serve as a base of operations for the various relief agencies at work in it?

I ought, perhaps, to refer to some of the kinds of work that the Society has been doing, and which would still need to be done, even though it gave no relief, that I may not be charged with vagueness.

I believe I should not be claiming too much if I said that the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings' Act, which the Government has received well-deserved praise for, would not have been introduced had it not been for the Special Committee of the society which reported in 1873; at any rate, there is no doubt that the information collected and the suggestions made by this committee were of material use to the promoters of the Act, as Mr. Cross cordially acknowledged. Several excellent associations had been working for many years at the problem of improving the dwellings of the poor; but the Organisation Society, though not itself a Dwellings Society, was able to bring their representatives together, and so materially to promote the objects which they were aiming at. A similar Special Committee of representatives of charities for the blind was formed towards the end of 1874, and will soon report. Apart from the value of its report, those who know the difficulties that attend any attempt at promoting co-operation will see that it is a matter of some importance to have brought the representatives of 14 kindred charities into friendly communication.

But it may be said that these Special Committees do not cost much money. I can easily mention more costly kinds of work. The society undertakes to inquire, without charge, for any resident in London, legitimately interested, into the circumstances of any applicant for relief. This can only be done effectually by persons who know the neighbourhood where the applicant for relief resides and its charitable agencies, and would by itself almost necessitate keeping up offices with paid officers throughout London. And it is not only private individuals that avail themselves of this offer. Last autumn the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, wished to ascertain the circumstances of those who were using its out-patient department. Ten years ago such an inquiry could hardly have been made, the number of fresh patients averaging several hundreds a week, and coming from all parts of London. The Organisation Society made no difficulty about undertaking the task. More recently, at the request of the Committee of the Children's Hospital, the society has undertaken to verify the statements of all the persons who bring children to the out-patient department there, and it has also undertaken to inquire into and deal, to the best of its judgment, with all cases of distress referred to it by the Divisional Committees of the London School Board.

It will be seen, from what I have said, that the Organisation Society does not profess, as 'W. H. P.' assumes, to be 'the perfection of charitable societies,' but to be different in kind from almost all others. It was called into existence by a crying need, by which I mean not so much the indiscriminate charity of the public as the absence of any unity of purpose or principle of division of labour amongst the numerous relief agencies of London, including the Poor Law, and the consequent ineffectiveness of most of the relief given. The difficulties in its way have been and are very great, and it has no doubt made mistakes and enemies, still I believe that it has done substantial good. It has been greatly indebted hitherto to the support of the public and the press, and to their decision it will willingly leave the present issue.

My letter has run to a considerable length, but I am omitting much which I should like to have said. For instance, I have not pointed out that the society's offices and paid officers have made it possible for it to call out a great deal of unpaid work and thought, or that the influence—and in some sense the work—of the society has extended much beyond London. I will only add, however, that I shall be very glad to give further explanations if they should be required.—I am, your obedient servant, CHARLES B. P. BOSANQUET, Secretary.

A correspondent, writing from 194, Commercial Road, E., to the *Tower*

*Hamlets Independent*, in reply to a letter signed 'Children's Friend,' points out that 'the amount appearing in the Society's balance-sheet as spent in relief by no means gives an adequate idea of the amount of help which it is the means of affording.'

'In some instances,' he continues, 'the Committee has obtained permanent weekly allowances for the aged poor from benevolent private persons. They prefer that, whenever possible in such cases, the donor should himself bestow his gift, and deprecate the idea of charitable work being done by proxy, and "officialism" substituted for personal kindness and sympathy.'

'Let me, by way of illustration, instance one or two cases dealt with by the Whitechapel Committee. Not one penny of the large expenditure incurred in relieving them appears in the Committee's balance-sheet. I will give them as concisely as I can:—

'M. R.—This poor woman was sent twice last year to Convalescent Homes for the benefit of her health—travelling expenses 30s., defrayed by private persons. She has since received, on the representation of the Committee, a very large amount of relief in the form of nourishments supplied weekly from the Baroness Coutts' Charity and other sources, besides £5 or £6 in money; and this year she has been sent for three months to the Bath Mineral Water Hospital, involving an additional expenditure of £8.

'W. F.—A working-man, seriously ill, not long enough on his club to be eligible for sick benefits, but of good character, and provident. The clergyman was helping as much as he could, but quite inadequately to the requirements of the case, there being a wife and children. Committee obtained additional relief to the amount of 5s. per week for three months, and assisted him to go to the country on his recovery, which had been despaired of.

'H. H.—An old man, for whom the Committee have "organised" regular weekly relief, from former employers and others, to the amount of 4s. weekly.

'D. P.—A hardworking dressmaker, whose husband's health entirely failed, and on whom the support of the family entirely rested. A sewing-machine was obtained, and they were helped to remove to their native place in the country. £7 spent.

'G. G. and F. E.—Two children removed from wretched homes and bad influences, and sent to the English Lake District, where they have been boarded out under the supervision of a Committee of Ladies, and are doing well in every respect. Cost, £12 a year each child.'

AN IMPOSTOR.—A man named Edward Mansell, giving as his address 21 Great Chapel Street, Westminster, recently applied for assistance to a clergyman residing at Lewisham, stating that he was a member of the English Church Union, and had been recently at St. George's Hospital suffering from an attack of congestion of the lungs. Subsequently he forwarded a letter of recommendation, purporting to be written by another clergyman. It was found, on inquiry, that this letter was a forgery; that he had not been in St. George's Hospital during the present year; that he had been entered three years ago on the books of the English Church Union as a member, but had never paid any subscription; that his name had been removed from the books, as it was understood he had been obtaining money by using the names of other members; and that a warning against him had been published in the *Church Review* of 9th October, by the Hon. Secretary of the Railway Guild of the Holy Cross, of which he had represented himself as a member, and the names of members of which he had made use of in his appeals as having authority from them in the name of the guild to appeal for assistance. His case was investigated by the North St. Pancras Committee some weeks ago, and it was then discovered that he had been for some time writing begging-letters, and that he had made false statements as to his employment and other circumstances. A letter also appeared in the *Times* of 28th August, which appears to refer to him, and from which it seems he has been endeavouring to impose on the public in various localities.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d. s. d.  
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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 151.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 27, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

The Fulham Committee have removed their Office from 14 Devonshire Street, Hammersmith Road, to 7 Brook Green Terrace, Hammersmith Road, nearly opposite St. Mary's Church.

District Committees are reminded that their Annual Reports should be made up to September 30, and should be ready for issue not later than December 1.

The recommendations of Council with reference to the form and print of Reports were set out in the *Reporter* for October 14, 1874.

It is also recommended that a footnote be added to the Balance-sheets, stating the amount of liabilities (if any) at the end of the financial year.

The Council request that District Committees will send 150 copies of their forthcoming Annual Reports to the Central Office. It will be an advantage if 75 of these can be made up without List of Subscribers, with a view to binding.

The Council undertake to send copies of each Report to the other District Committees. The Council will pay for the copies furnished to them when Committees wish it. It is requested that, in that case, an invoice may be sent.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair, and subsequently the Earl of Lichfield); Sir Alexander Gordon, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, *Paddington*; Major Prendergast, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss

Collett, *South St. Pancras*; T. B. Spencer, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. M. S. A. Walrond, Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; Bishop Beckles, J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Parry-Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; G. Parker, Esq., A. Annesley, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., G. Blount, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 39. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*. Rev. C. D. Beaufort, Miss McGachen, *Visitors*.

The Secretary reported that Mr. A. G. Middleton would act as a representative of the St. George's (Hanover Square) Committee during the absence of Lord William Compton; and that Mr. W. F. Lawrence had resumed an Honorary Secretaryship of the St. Giles's Committee, *vice* Mr. J. J. Bickersteth, resigned; also that the St. George's East Committee was without an Hon. Secretary, and had asked the Council to endeavour to find a gentleman to fill the post.

## SCHOOL BOARD CASES.

A letter from a District Committee was read, asking whether any funds were applicable, under the arrangement with Mr. Peek, to a case which was described.

The Secretary pointed out that under the arrangement cases sent by the Divisional Committees were to be dealt with according to the ordinary principles of the Society, and that the chief question for the District Committees in most such cases was, whether temporary assistance would save the family from having to apply to the parish, and whether this would be a lasting benefit to them. Boarding-out, which was a mode of assistance suggested, was hardly suitable, as the mother was living.

The Chairman thought that if the mother was given to drink, as was believed to be the case, pressure should be put on her to pay what was required.

It was referred to the Administrative Committee to reply to the letter.

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CASES.

The Secretary read a statement which he had received from the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, with reference to the number of out-patients during the quarter ending September 30. There had been 4,115 new applicants. Of these, 47 had been summarily rejected at the hospital, on account of over-age, or the infectious nature of their complaints; 439 had received 'casual papers,' and had been seen once, their ailments being so slight as to make it unnecessary for them to attend again. 131, whose fathers or mothers were receiving more than 30s. a week, also received 'casual papers,' and were seen once, on the ground of their requiring good advice, and being unable to pay a consultation-fee. 3,498 were furnished with letters and referred to the Committees of the Charity Organisation Society, after being seen once, that these letters might be stamped by them, if the statements



made by the applicants at the Hospital proved to be substantially true. 122 letters had been returned to the Hospital unstamped, for various reasons; but the Committees had not in all cases sent information about rejected cases, and the Hospital were unable to say how many of the 3,498 had returned, as they did not enter second attendances. He was informed that there had been 400 fewer applicants than during the corresponding quarter of last year, whilst the opening of the new buildings might have been expected to increase the number. The District Committees would be able to say how many letters had been brought to them during the quarter, and how many they had stamped.

#### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending October 16 the receipts had been £5. 2s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £97. 8s. 8d. and £274. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That a District Committee had called their attention to the fact, that the returns of cases decided during the recess (though published in the *Times*) did not appear in the *Reporter*, and that they had directed that in future years the returns for August and September should be inserted in the first number of the *Reporter* in October.

Also that they were in communication with the Geneva Society, about a Swiss, employed in London, who had left a child at Geneva unprovided for.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

Grants of £20 on account were made to the Mile End and Whitechapel Committees.

The Rev. W. H. Langhorne urged that a grant of £10 to their Permanent Loan Fund, which the Whitechapel Committee had applied for, should be made in addition, if the funds of the Council warranted this.

The Secretary said that, if it had not been for a grant of £100 from Kensington, the Council would not have been able to make the two grants under consideration without trenching on the £250 given by Mr. Peek, and recommendations to the amount of £95 would have to be considered at the next meeting. A gentleman had recently brought £10 to the office, to be given to one or more District Committees for their Permanent Loan Funds. He proposed to give a moiety of this to the Whitechapel Committee. Its Loan Fund amounted to £42. 10s., but was no doubt hardly equal to the demands on it, as the Committee sometimes made rather large loans. He read a statement of the cases decided by the Whitechapel Committee since their separation from the St. George's East Committee at the beginning of April: 201 cases had been dealt with, 86 had been dismissed, assistance had been obtained for 62, and 47 had been assisted by the Committee—10 of these by loans; a few others had been simply reported on, and left in the hands of persons asking for information.

Mr. Langhorne did not press his suggestion, and the recommendation having been adopted, the Council adjourned.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending October 23, 1875:—*Donations*: W. F. Higgins, Esq., £1; J. Walter, Esq., M.P., £20. *Annual*: W. G. Darwin, Esq., £1. 1s.; Rev. J. J. Thornley, 2s. 6d.; E. J. Valentine, Esq., 2s. 6d. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Kensington Committee, £100.

The following business stands for Monday, November 1:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. 'That a grant of £50 on account be made to the St. Olave's Committee.'
2. 'That a grant of £25 be made to the Bethnal Green Committee.'
3. 'That a grant of £20 on account be made to the Shoreditch Committee.'

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END-ING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospital, &c.				
Kensington .....	6	3	5	14	..	3	..	3	4	..	..	4	21	8	3	16
Fulham .....	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	1	2	3	..	2	5
Paddington .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	4	..	..	4	7	6	1	..
Chelsea .....	..	1	1	..	5	..	..	5	2	..	1	3	9	..	6	..
St. George's:—																
St. George's Division.	1	..	5	6	..	3	..	3	3	..	..	3	30	5	1	1
Westminster do.	2	3	4	9	2	1	1	4	4	..	1	5	3	..	..	..
Westminster:—																
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	..	..	1	..	7	1	8	..	..	..	..	9	6	15	9
St. Marylebone .....	1	4	3	8	..	7	3	10	2	4	..	1	25	3	9	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	3	3	..	4	1	5	..	1	..	..	1	9	6	2	..
South St. Pancras ....	2	1	4	7	..	5	..	5	..	..	2	2	14	2	5	..
Islington .....	8	2	2	12	..	26	2	28	..	..	1	1	41	16	5	2
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury Strand .....	..	..	..	..	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	3	..
Holborn .....	1	..	7	8	..	9	1	10	..	1	..	1	11	6	4	..
City .....	1	..	1	2	..	26	..	26	2	..	..	2	36	2	8	..
Shoreditch .....	..	5	5	..	2	..	2	..	2	1	..	3	6	3	10	..
Bethnal Green .....	1	..	3	4	1	..	2	3	2	..	1	3	10	4	1	..
Whitechapel .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	5	6	1	2	..
St. George's-in-the-East	2	1	2	5	..	1	1	2	..	..	2	2	9	2	3	..
Stepney .....	2	1	2	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	6	5	2	..
Mile End Old Town ..	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	5	..	4	..
Poplar .....	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	3	..
*St. Saviour's .....	1	1	3	5	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	7	4	..	..
Newington .....	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	3	1
St. Olave's .....	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	4	10	1	7	..
Lambeth:— { North ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	2	..	3
{ South ..	..	..	3	3	..	4	..	4	1	1	..	2	9	5	2	10
Wandsworth & Putney	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	6	1	..	..
Battersea .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	13	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Camberwell:—																
Grove Lane .....	1	..	1	2	..	2	..	2	2	..	..	2	6	..	..	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	2	2	3	10
Greenwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	4	..	8	..
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	3	6	1	22
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	..
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total .....	33	18	62	113	6	121	14	141	44	14	5	17	80	334	101	116

\* No returns received from these Committees at time of going to press.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE DURING THE RECESS.—During the recess the Administrative Committee, in pursuance of the powers given to it, transferred £200 of the General Fund of the Council to the District Committee Aid Fund, and made grants amounting to £200 to seven Committees, as follows: St. Pancras South, £45; Islington, £10; Lambeth, £60; Newington, on account, £20; Poplar, £45 (£25 being for a Permanent Loan Fund); and Bethnal Green, £20. The Administrative Committee also sent two circulars to the District Committees—one relating to the Seaford and Margate Hospitals; and the other offering them copies of the *Index to Streets and Places in the Metropolis*, forty copies of which were placed, at half-price, at the disposal of the Council. In accordance with replies to the offer, thirty-one copies have been sent to District Offices.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of October 1875 was 33,630, and 47,101 received outdoor relief, making a total of 80,731. This was a decrease of 807 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 10,295, 6,708, and 19,950 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 645. This was an increase of 166 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 175 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### THE ATCHAM UNION.

The result of the late Sir Baldwin Leighton's careful administration of the Atcham Union has been so often referred to, during the last two or three years, that it appears worth while to reprint the following letters. The Atcham Union is now united with the Shrewsbury Union:—



*From the Chairman of the Alresford Board of Guardians to the Chairman of the Atcham Union.*

Arle-Bury, Alresford, July 16, 1870.

SIR,—I hope you will excuse my troubling you, as the matter on which I write is one of public interest. We are to have a meeting of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Boards of Guardians for Hants and Berks on the 28th of this month, and I want to draw attention to the small amount of out-relief given in the Atcham Union.

May I ask you to explain whether this small proportion arises from the circumstances of the population, or from the system pursued by the Board of Guardians in their administration of Poor-Law Relief?—I am, &c.

FRANCIS MARX.

*From the Chairman of the Atcham Board of Guardians to the Chairman of the Alresford Union.*

Loton Park, Shrewsbury, August 2, 1870.

DEAR SIR,—I am very sorry that, owing to the neglect of our clerk, I have not been able to reply sooner to your letter of the 16th ult., which was only put into my hands yesterday at our Board Meeting.

There is nothing very peculiar in our population, except that we have no town in the Union. The inhabitants are agricultural, with the exception of a few coal and lead miners.

The chief reason, therefore, for the small amount of our outdoor relief is to be found in the administration of it by the Board. I may mention we have had less change in our officials, probably, than any Board in the kingdom. This Union was formed thirty-three years since, and we have had during that time—

- 1 Chairman.
- 5 Vice-Chairmen (we have two at the same time).
- 2 Clerks. (The father died about six years since, and his son succeeded.)
- 7 Relieving Officers (we have two)—of these one was promoted to be Rate Collector, one resigned through old age, one married a wife with money, and two were dismissed.
- 2 Masters. Son-in-law succeeded father-in-law.
- 4 Matrons. One resigned, one died, one (a daughter) retired on her father's marriage.
- 4 Schoolmasters. Three resigned.
- 1 Industrial trainer, female.

Many of the working Guardians have also attended the Board from ten to fifteen years, so that by this means we have been able to act on a uniform system.

I may explain that, as Chairman, I endeavour to encourage thrift, and in my own neighbourhood I am able to persuade a large number of labourers to save. At present I have about thirty Savings Bank books in my keeping, the sums entered varying from ten shillings up to eighty pounds, and besides this, I am aware of many of my neighbours who keep their own books.

As a Board, we always endeavour to make children support their parents, and I am happy to say there are very few cases where they fail to do so, when the alternative is the workhouse. At the present time we have only one married couple in the workhouse, and they were brought in owing to the wife being bedridden, and the cottage in a dirty state. We have also an old married man whose wife is taken care of by a daughter, and a deserted Cornish wife. This shows that our rule does not bring many of this class into the workhouse. We have about nine couples only on our permanent Out-relief List.

You may have observed how few children we have on out-relief. This shows the small number of young persons with young families who apply, and in almost all these cases the destitution is occasioned by sickness, and the relief is not permanent.

When this class apply, and also widows with families, we offer to take some of their children into the workhouse, and then, if ill, we grant out-relief. At the present time we have thirteen children of widows who are not receiving other relief, and two of a man to whom, just at this time, we are giving 8s. a week.

I observe in Alresford there are a large number of children in the workhouse—5 per 1,000; we have 3 per 1,000. While on out-relief Alresford has 20 per 1,000, Atcham has only  $\frac{3}{4}$ . I cannot account for this great difference, as you appear to make great use of the workhouse test for this class.

I ought to mention that we have a very good school. Our boys and girls are taught reading, &c. by a master together. They play in the same playground—a gravel path separating the two sexes. The playground is enclosed by a low hedge only. The girls have their own kitchen, where the officers' dinner is cooked by them under the industrial trainer; and they have a laundry adjoining, where they wash their own clothes, and when there is sufficient strength the industrial trainer's linen. Although in the same house, they are quite isolated from the adults, except at meal-times. Every endeavour is used to make them handy, and to draw out their intellect. Among other things, the advantage of the Savings Bank is strongly impressed, and I have found several, in consequence, put by money before they have left us three years.

As we have a regular system, our rules become known, and we have but few applications—only from forty to fifty during the half-year. We meet twice a month. Thus this is not an average of four per meeting, and

perhaps twice or thrice per annum we have a blank book with no applications.

We give no permanent relief out of the workhouse:

- 1.—To any who rent more than half an acre of land.
- 2.—To orphan children, i.e. without both parents.
- 3.—To deserted wives or deserted children.
- 4.—To applicants residing out of the union.

In cases of funerals we do everything or nothing—i.e., we will not give the coffin and allow the relatives to do the rest.

If a cottage is very dirty, we endeavour to get it made clean under the threat of refusing out-relief.

If rent is £4. 10s. or even £4, we only grant relief for a short time, until the pauper can obtain a cheaper place.

We never grant out-relief on the plea of no work.

We do not give clothing, except to children going to service.

These rules do not apply to occasional relief caused by sickness.

While, on the one hand, we act in what some may call a very stringent manner, the Board endeavour by various plans to raise the condition of our poor. Two applicants came before the Board, who were paying £5 each for their cottages, under a nobleman who was non-resident. The Board wrote to point out to him that that rent was higher than was asked by any other gentleman in the union. He wrote a very civil reply. The agent was very angry, but our letter has, I believe, done good. The rent of cottages with gardens under gentlemen varies from £2. 10s. to £3. 10s., and is rarely £4.

The Board lately wrote to a baronet, who is also non-resident, pointing out that a house where a pauper died was not fit to live in. He promised to pull it down.

The Board also writes to landlords, requiring them to sewer and to make privies—also pointing out the bad and dirty state of their cottages.

Some years since, when work was scarce, the Board took the initiative in endeavouring to procure work, and were thus enabled to send applicants to places in the union where they could procure it. By this means we kept the applicants from becoming pauperised.

In all these cases my personal influence, no doubt, does something; still no landlord likes being found fault with (if he is to blame) by a public body, and thus we are able to do a good deal in this way without having recourse to law. Indeed, we have only once had occasion to summon a party for a nuisance; the others, by dint of writing and perseverance on our part, carrying out what we required.

We are very particular about vaccination. If a parent applies for relief, one of the questions asked is, "Have your children been vaccinated?" and if there is any doubt, it is the duty of the relieving-officer to examine the arm. If a fit case for relief, it is granted only for a fortnight, and in the meantime the child must be vaccinated, or a certificate of unfitness given.

Our vaccinations are from 90 to 95 per cent. on our births.

I may add our wages are low—day labourers, 10s. to 12s. a week, piecework a little more; women 1s. a day, but few work in the fields; labourers, with food, 4s. 6d. to 6s. a week; waggoners, £10 to £14 per annum, with food and lodging; servant-girls above 18, £6 to £10—above 12 up to 18, £2 to £6. Our cottages, with good gardens—and almost every cottage has a garden—are let at from 50s. to £5, and we have many who have land sufficient for a cow attached to their holding. On this property, out of nearly 70 cottages, 30 have cow-land; and on another small estate I had there were 21 cottages, and eight kept cows. Coal also is cheap, 10s. to 13s. at the pit, and many labourers get their masters' team to haul it for them without payment.

I shall be happy to give you any other information, but fear I have written already too long an epistle.—Yours truly, BALDWIN LEIGHTON.

*From the same to the same.—Extract.*

Loton Park, August 11, 1870.

DEAR SIR,—I have been very much interested in reading the account of the proceedings at your meeting at Basingstoke respecting the administration of the Poor Laws. I am sorry I was prevented from attending it, owing to our assizes taking place at that time. The interchange of ideas among those interested in Poor Law work no doubt will lead to good when carried on, as your meeting seems to have been, in a friendly spirit. . . . There is an error into which, I think, several speakers fell, of supposing, if a Board decline to grant out-relief, the applicant must of necessity come into the house.

I frequently go over the list of applicants with our relieving-officers and the master, with a view of ascertaining how many have come in to whom we have refused outdoor relief, and it is astonishing how few will accept our offer. Our Board refuse outdoor relief, even in our limited number of applications, to nearly half of those who apply. Practically, I find that most of these are supported by their children or other relatives when outdoor relief is refused. I examine the list with the view of ascertaining how far we were right in our order.

In this union we never allow want of work to be an excuse for applying for relief, and consequently we have but few applicants of this class.



Should we have, however, great slackness of work, and should it become evident that there were a large number out of employment, I should apply to the waywardens to undertake an improvement on their roads; and I have no doubt that, partly by subscriptions and partly by rates, we should be able to offer employment to all who were really willing to work and unable to procure it. . . . I may add that, though as a guardian I refuse outdoor relief to an able-bodied applicant, yet out of the Board room, if the man is of fair character, I always try to procure him the offer of work, and during the winter I generally take on extra hands on my own property. By this means, in my own neighbourhood, no labourer able and willing to work need complain that he is unable to procure it.—Yours, &c.,

BALDWIN LEIGHTON.

#### ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN GERMANY.

SIR,—While in Würzburg I have noticed, by the entrance of several houses, a plate with the inscription, 'Verein für freiwillige Armenpflege. Jede Gabe an Bettler ist verboten.' I find, on inquiry, that this society has been established since February last. The number of beggars who came in from the surrounding districts rendered it necessary that some step should be taken to prevent mendicity becoming a nuisance to the inhabitants. To Prof. Regelsberger is due the formation of this society, which has for its objects (by co-operation with benevolent institutions and persons) the relief of deserving needy people, without reference to their place of abode, and the suppression of house and street begging. The conditions of membership are the payment, quarterly, of 50 pf. (6d.), and an undertaking to suppress begging, and to refuse alms on all occasions. Every member has to put up a plate bearing the inscription above mentioned. The executive consists of a committee (elected yearly at general meeting) and officers. The society does not employ paid agents to investigate the cases; the work is undertaken by members in leisure hours. The aid given, on decision by the committee, consists either of money (to be paid in a lump sum or by instalments), or of gifts of clothing, food, furniture, &c. Although this society is of such recent formation, it has already done much good in diminishing the number of beggars. No society of the same size in Germany has more wealthy hospitals, and the inhabitants (possessed of the spirit of the good Bishop Julius) have been liberal in aid to the poor. The society hopes to have the support of most of the inhabitants, but it has to meet with the opposition of many of the clergy. The receipts have, however, already amounted to 4,000 marks (£200), and 1,400 marks (£70) have been distributed.—Your obedient servant,

Würzburg, October 12, 1875.

HENRY PETO.

#### PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

BATTERSEA.—'The Committee of the Battersea Dispensary' (says the *British Medical Journal*) 'have had under their consideration what steps it was desirable to take to adapt the institution to the altered condition of the parish. After careful deliberation, they have unanimously decided to adopt the provident system. The dispensary was founded in 1844, when Battersea was a mere village; and its regulations are hardly suited to a populous suburb, of which a large proportion of the inhabitants belongs to the well-to-do artisan class. In reconstructing the dispensary upon the provident basis the Committee have introduced a novel feature. They propose to divide the members into two classes: first, those whose weekly earnings do not exceed thirty shillings; and, secondly, those who are receiving from thirty shillings to fifty shillings. The former class will be expected to pay one penny a week, the latter twopence, with proportionate payments for children. We are glad to see this experiment tried. It is a step in the right direction. There can be no doubt that many of those whom it is proposed to enrol in the second class are as much in need of a system of "sick assurance" as their poor neighbours.'

MANCHESTER.—The Central Committee of the Manchester Provident Dispensary Association are said to have resolved to admit Friendly Societies to the benefits of the provident scheme. A correspondent writes to the *British Medical Journal* that the medical men connected with the provident dispensaries are dissatisfied with this decision.

THE ADVANTAGE OF A PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.—We have recently been told, by the chief promoter of a successful village provident dispensary, that the key to its success, as compared with various sick-clubs which had preceded it, lies in the members being at liberty to choose their own doctor.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN.—It is stated that at Macclesfield some years ago, the appointment of a 'Collector to the Guardians,' whose business it was to seek out and communicate with the relatives of persons receiving parish relief, has resulted in a saving to the Union of £5,000 a year. In one case a man, who had been compelled to contribute towards the support of his old mother, came to the office of the Board after her death and expressed his gratitude to the Guardians for having brought him to a sense of his duty.

A CHARITY AGENT is Wanted by an East London Committee. Salary £100 a year.—Applications to be made by letter only, stating age and qualifications, to the Assistant Organising Secretary, 15 Buckingham Street, W.C.

ANNUAL REPORTS of the DISTRICT COMMITTEES for 1874, bound up with the SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COUNCIL, price 2s. 6d., post free 3s., can be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 152.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 3, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

District Committees are requested to inform the Secretary to the Council what number of Letters for the Children's Hospital were brought to them during the three months ending September 30, and how many of these they declined to stamp.

District Committees not having occasion to apply for a Grant from the District Committee Aid Fund, during the current quarter in the ordinary way, but desiring to be reimbursed expenditure on School Board cases, under the arrangement with Mr. Peek, are requested to send in a written intimation to this effect.

One of the poorer Committees has an application in the case of a deserving person in poor circumstances, and crippled by rheumatism, for a Bath-chair, to enable her to be wheeled about out of doors, with a promise from a private source of half the cost of obtaining a second-hand one. Perhaps some of the readers of this paper, or their friends, may know where such an article is to be had cheap at second-hand, and will kindly communicate the information to the Secretary of the Council.

Country Societies are requested not to send up persons in distress to the London Society without allowing time for an exchange of letters in regard to them, and not to intrust such persons with letters about themselves. Personal applications are not, under ordinary circumstances, received at the Central Office.

The Bristol and Clifton Charity Organisation Society has united its offices. Its address in future will be 19 College Green, Bristol.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: The Earl of Lichfield (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, Miss Merington, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Sir R. M. Stephenson, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Major Prendergast, Major FitzRoy, A. G. Middleton, Esq., *St. George's*; F. C. Mills, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's)*; Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; T. B. Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. H. P. Kelly, *Shoreditch*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., A. D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Heathcote Long, Esq., Lambeth*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; A. Annesley, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Lieut.-General Cavenagh, *Vice-Chairman*; A. H. Hill, Esq., J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., G. Blount, Esq., S. Fuller, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 38. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., *Secretary*. Miss Potter, R. Ellis, Esq., *Visitors*.

A letter was read from Dr. West, expressing satisfaction at the working of the arrangement under which the District Committees verify the statements of applicants for out-patient relief at the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, after the applicant had been seen and prescribed for once.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending October 23 the receipts had been £22. 6s. for the General Fund, and £100 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £21. 10s. and £334. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That the Finance Sub-Committee had held their usual Quarterly Meeting to examine the accounts for the quarter ending September 30; that £529 had been granted during the quarter from the District Committee Aid Fund, being £179 in excess of the amount granted during the corresponding quarter of last year; and that £200 out of £421 received on account of this fund had been a contribution from the General Fund of the Council.

That the Croydon Charitable Society had requested that a representative of the Organisation Society might attend their Annual Meeting on November 26, and that they hoped to be able to meet the wish of the Croydon Society.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

A grant of £50 on account was made to the St. Olave's Committee in pursuance of a recommendation from the Administrative Committee.

Major FitzRoy, in the absence of a representative from St. Olave's, explained the position of the Committee and its requirements.

The desirableness of obtaining an Hon. Secretary resident in the District as colleague to the gentleman at present holding that office, who comes from some distance at great expenditure of time, was referred to.

A grant of £25 was made to the Bethnal Green Committee.



The Rev. J. D. McGachen mentioned that the cases referred to his Committee by the Divisional Committee of the School Board had not, for the most part, been such as admitted of effectual assistance from charity. In some cases the parents were earning good wages, but spending their money in drink.

A grant of £20 on account was made to the Shoreditch Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending October 30, 1875:—*Donations*: M. J. F., £3. *Annual*: The Clothworkers' Company, £10. 10s.; James Duncan, Esq., £5. 5s.; Major Fitzroy, £2. 2s.; Mrs. Guest, £1.

The following business stands for Monday, November 8:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. That the Administrative Committee be empowered to reimburse District Committees on application by them for expenditure actually incurred in dealing with cases referred by the School Board, such reimbursements not to require the sanction of Council.

2. That a prosecution be instituted.

3. That a grant of £25 on account be made to the Fulham Committee.

4. That a grant of £30 on account be made to the St. George's in the East Committee.

5. That a grant of £25 on account be made to the Poplar Committee.

To receive and consider the report of the Committee appointed on October 18, to advise on the best course to be taken in reference to the vacancy created by the resignation of the Secretaryship.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, OCTO- BER 30, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by			Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-law or otherwise ineligible	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.			
Kensington .....	1	3	2	6	1	1	4	...	...	4	12	7	6
Fulham .....	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	...	1	3	4	2	3
Paddington .....	2	1	1	4	3	2	3	4	1	9	17	12	3
Chelsea .....	2	1	3	6	7	1	2	2	...	4	15	4	4
St. George's:—													
St. George's Division.	1	...	3	4	2	1	3	...	1	4	19	6	1
Westminster do.	...	2	2	1	1	1	4	...	1	5	...	3	...
* Westminster:—													
St. James' & St. Anne's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Marylebone .....	3	3	3	9	7	4	...	2	1	3	23	7	11
Hampstead .....	2	1	3	6	3	1	1	...	...	1	9	...	2
North St. Pancras and													
Highgate .....	2	1	3	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	3
South St. Pancras .....	...	6	6	13	3	17	...	...	...	...	23	1	4
Islington .....	4	1	5	10	9	9	1	5	...	6	20	13	2
Hackney .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	...	2	2	4	8	8	...	1	1	1	11	1	5
Strand .....	...	...	...	6	1	7	2	1	1	4	11	6	5
Holborn .....	...	7	7	14	21	22	2	1	...	3	32	2	10
City .....	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	...	3	6	21	16
Shoreditch .....	...	4	4	8	...	...	1	2	2	7	11	1	11
Bethnal Green .....	2	1	4	7	...	1	2	...	...	2	10	7	2
Whitechapel .....	2	2	4	8	2	1	...	1	1	3	10	1	4
St. George's-in-the-East	1	1	2	4	...	...	...	1	1	2	4	1	1
Stepney .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	3	1
Mile End Old Town ..	1	...	1	2	1	1	2	...	2	2	5	...	2
Poplar .....	...	1	1	2	...	...	2	...	1	3	4	1	1
St. Saviour's .....	4	1	5	10	1	1	1	...	1	2	9	4	5
* Newington .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Olave's .....	1	1	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Lambeth:—													
North .....	1	2	3	6	1	1	3	...	...	3	11	4	6
South .....	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	4	1	2
Wandsworth & Putney	...	1	1	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	3	1	1
Battersea .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	2	2	2	1
Clapham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	2	2	1	13
Camberwell:—													
Grove Lane .....	...	2	2	4	...	...	8	...	...	8	11	...	...
Peckham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Greenwich .....	...	3	3	6	1	1	1	3	...	4	8	4	9
Deptford .....	...	1	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	3	4	2	4
Woolwich .....	...	1	1	2	...	...	3	4	...	7	8	1	20
Lewisham .....	1	1	2	4	...	...	1	...	3	4	6	4	13
Eltham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Sydenham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
Total .....	22	19	53	94	6	93	54	30	6	17	320	122	117

\* No returns received from these Committees at time of going to press.

#### WINCHESTER CHARITY ORGANISATION ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association took place at the Guildhall, Winchester, on Thursday evening, the Right Hon. Lord Selborne presiding. His lordship was supported by the Mayor (C. Fielder, Esq.), the Dean of Winchester, the Archdeacon of Winchester, Dr. Ridding (head master of the College), Mr. Ribton-Turner (Organising Secretary of the London Society), the Revds. G. Richardson, H. Haigh, H. J. Wickham, and E. A. Were, and Messrs. E. J. Turner (hon. sec.), F. Morshead, Alderman W. Budden, Alderman J. Naish, &c. The Dean, with brief introductory remarks, proposed that the chair should be taken by

Lord Selborne, who said he had come amongst them at the invitation of the Dean, and also because the subject before them was one of great public interest, and not only so, but one of great and general importance. (Hear.) The aim of the Association was to assist people to give wisely and well—a most difficult yet most necessary thing. It was a most difficult thing to do, because to give when asked was the impulse of every generous heart, and seemed at first sight in accordance with the Gospel precept, 'Give to him that asketh.' This was a feeling that influenced him, and no doubt many of those present, when young. But the practice of giving to all in need, without seeing, and justly seeing, whether the person receiving was worthy or unworthy of relief, would not bear measurement by any high moral standard, and was rather a mischievous and unsatisfactory practice. The aim of the Society was, by observation and a careful line of action, to obtain discrimination and wisdom in giving. The opportunities for judging of this often lay upon the surface, and might easily be seen if the feelings were not carried away by believing the case to be one of pure distress. In some cases he was quite sure that more harm than good was done by indiscriminate giving, and his experience was summed up in a few words—the more you give, the less good you will do; the less you give, the more good you will do.

There were three classes of cases to which, with their permission, he would refer. Of course there were the cases which people knew thoroughly, of persons in service or under their eye, but who yet had no direct or moral claim upon them. Everyone must judge for themselves in giving in these cases what effect their gifts would have, what kind of need there was, and the degree of the claim—whether it should be met by regular assistance in the shape of a small allowance, or an annuity. If the help afforded were permanent it did most good. These cases were distinct from the three classes against which he desired to warn givers of charity. The first of these classes was that for which the Poor-law made proper provision. No good was done by attempting to encourage such persons to believe that the Poor-law was not a true and lawful provision for them, if they were not in the possession of means of earning their own livelihood, and if one were not in a condition to support them. To hold out hopes of support to such persons without the ability to realise them was running the risk of disgracing them. (Hear, hear.) Suppose he were reduced to that state of things that he must either beg or go into the workhouse, he was certain that the moral principle within him would be better preserved by submitting to the condition in which he found himself, and by availing himself of his right to a portion of the burden laid by the law on the whole land, than by obtaining a living from day to day at the hands of private charity. By law the maintenance of the people was a charge on the land, and there was not a charge superior to it. People, sooner than starve, ought to be maintained by it, and, if they could not maintain themselves honestly by other means, they should not look upon it as something disgraceful. The Poor-law of England, if wisely and well administered, was just and merciful in its provisions, and its aid nothing to be ashamed of. Therefore, if people could not give a person in distress a permanent allowance, it was better that he should at once avail himself of that provided by law. The second class consisted of those persons who were struggling in life, having before them a reasonable prospect of maintaining themselves. It was a dangerous practice to give these persons help without there was a sound and good reason for doing so. If there were a reason the help would do good and not harm, but if there were no sufficient reason they would be encouraging those persons to look from time to time for further assistance. If a person asked for money, and got it, he came again, and each successive gift diminished that man's sense of independence, making him look to others rather than rely on himself, doing him more harm than good, and, in fact, demoralising him. He had seen the good effect of refusing in such cases, and also seen the ill effect of repeated giving. (Hear.) The third class, arising, in a great measure, from the neglect of sound rules of economy and prudence in dealing with the other two classes, were a more numerous body. Indiscriminate giving to these went a long way to increase the number of habitual and demoralised mendicants. (Hear, hear.) He had himself had some experience of this class, and in becoming acquainted with their ways his fingers had been somewhat burnt. (Laughter.) Amongst the most ingenious of these were the begging-letter writers. They prayed especially upon those whose names appeared prominently in the newspapers, such as members of parliament and others, the former being especially open to such attentions from their constituents—he did not mean in the way of influencing votes. (Laughter.)



For himself, he had found that the more pressing the necessity of the case was represented to be the more likely was it that the applicant did not require, or that it would not be wise to give, help. If, for instance, something was said to have happened that rendered it absolutely necessary, in order to save a man from ruin, that he should have money that very evening, there was a certainty that the case would not bear inquiry. His rule was to make inquiries, and he found that if he did not adhere to that rule, and inquire into the character of the applicant, the result was unsatisfactory. His lordship gave an instance of this. He was once, whilst engaged as a barrister, told that some one wished to see him on urgent business, and a letter was handed to him. It purported to come from the principal clergyman of Plymouth (a town he then represented in Parliament), and he thought the writing was certainly that of his clerical friend. It was to the effect that the bearer was a most respectable man, and that he (the speaker) had been introduced to him at the house of the Mayor of Plymouth; that this person had lost a lunatic sister at Hanwell Asylum, and desired to take her to Plymouth for burial. Would he lend him £20? He hesitated; but, on getting into court, he found a promissory note for the amount in the letter. He at once thought it was a genuine appeal, and sent the amount to the address indicated. The cheque which he sent, however, was returned a short time afterwards from the Dead Letter Office, and he thought himself more fortunate than he deserved. (Laughter.) It was an unhappy consequence of this pauperism and mendicancy that many persons, to prevent imposition on themselves, buttoned up their pockets, and did not give at all. This was to be regretted, as this was an age in which there was a tendency to selfishly give way to worldly pleasure and self-indulgence. To lift people out of temporary difficulties, and enable them to keep their place in life, was the object of their Association, and he was pleased to speak on its behalf.

Mr. E. J. Turner then read the Annual Report, which, besides the usual particulars, referred to the progress of a Penny Bank and Provident Coal Club, and announced that a Provident Dispensary had been formed at the suggestion of the Association, and would commence working on the 1st inst.

Mr. C. J. Ribton Turner, in moving the adoption of the Report, gave some interesting details with reference to the treatment of the poor, which he had collected during a recent visit to the Continent. We hope to give the substance of his speech next week.

Mr. Budden seconded the adoption of the Report, which was put and carried.

The Dean of Winchester, in proposing a vote of thanks to Lord Selborne for presiding, stated his experience of the inability of agricultural labourers to provide for their old age, excepting they began at an early day, by such means as were offered by the Hants Friendly Society.

Dr. Ridding seconded the vote of thanks, and it was carried amidst applause.

#### THE HULL BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE ORGANISATION OF CHARITY.

We learn from the *Eastern Morning News* that at the monthly meeting of the Board of Health for Hull on the 28th ult., on the minutes of the Sanitary Committee being brought up for confirmation, Mr. T. J. Smith called attention to the desirability of the health of infants in the town being attended to. The Hospital for Sick Children attended to indoor patients, but he thought that, if possible, something should be done, the same as in other towns, for outdoor patients.

Mr. Witty intimated that it would be done when the funds of the institution permitted it.

Mr. Smith trusted that the collections on Hospital Sunday would realise something substantial towards such an object. He moved: 'That, with a view to supplementing the action of the Sanitary Committee, the Urban Sanitary Authority and Local Board of Health will afford every assistance within its power in aid of a charity organisation society (if established) to prosecute its labours for the improvement of the health of the town.'

Alderman Lambert: I suppose that means moral support.

Mr. Smith said on cases being reported, every assistance could be rendered by the sanitary authorities.

Alderman Dowsing seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

#### BRIGHTON, HOVE, AND PRESTON CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

The following cases were brought before the Committee during the week ending Saturday last, October 23rd:—

No. 1256.—An application for assistance on behalf of a man who has been known to the parochial authorities for the last thirty years. About a year ago his out-door relief was stopped for very sufficient reasons, and he has since been offered an order for the house on twelve different occasions.—Referred to parish.

No. 1257.—A man in bad health and in receipt of parish relief. Family large, but his wife and three of his sons earn a little, and might, it is thought, earn more, but they have no energy. Last winter they received substantial assistance from the Society and various kind friends, but are now as badly off as ever. Help is best bestowed on those who use it to help themselves.—Ineligible.

No. 1258 and 1259.—Applications for dispensary letters by two deserving persons. The cases being urgent, the secretary granted the letters at once.—Approved.

Recurrent cases:—No. 361: Assistance requested for a sick man who has been twice sent to prison for theft and has now in his possession an order for the workhouse, which is precisely the best place for him.—Undeserving. No. 670: A thriftless man who has no idea of putting by for a rainy day. Well-known to the guardians, who have offered him an order for the house. The family, it is believed, receive a good deal of assistance in the form of charity.—Ineligible. No. 805: An inquiry as to the best means of giving permanent relief to a respectable old woman. After due consideration the Committee recommended the inquirer to pay the poor woman's little debts, and to send her by rail to her son, who is willing to receive her.—Return of post brought a sum of money which will be spent on the objects named, through the agency of the Society. No. 880: Inquiry respecting the character and management of an excellent local institution that is doing a vast amount of good.—A favourable report forwarded. (The frequent exposure of sham charities and the doings of artful impostors is beginning to make people inquire before they give.) No. 901: A dispensary letter requested by a respectable woman.—Granted by the secretary and approved by the Committee. No. 1238: A poor deformed girl, but not in destitute circumstances. The Committee would have gladly supplied her with a reclining board, but the surgeon to whom the case was referred says that it is unnecessary.—Ineligible. No. 1245: A woman lately relieved by the Society and recommended by one of its members to a situation which she refused without sufficient reason. Her daughter, a servant in Brighton, is about to give notice that she may go with applicant to a neighbouring county, where they say they are partly engaged as cook and housemaid. In the meantime the mother wants to be supported by the Society for a month, till the two are ready to start.—Undeserving.

A hundred and eight wayfarers, pleading hunger and in search of work, were relieved with bread, which was eaten in the Office, 182 Edward Street, Brighton.—*Sussex Daily News*.

#### EAST AND WEST.

At the ordinary meeting of the Guardians of the St. George's (Hanover Square) Union, on October 20, Col. Lyon Fremantle called the attention of the Board to the fact, that for the week ended September 4, there were only 262 children on the out-door relief list in the large, populous, and poor district comprised within the Whitechapel and Stepney Unions and the parishes of St. George in the East, and Mile End Old Town; whereas in the comparatively wealthy Union of St. George, Hanover Square, the out-door pauper children numbered 744; and moved 'That the attention of the Out-relief Committee be drawn to the system steadily pursued by certain Boards of Guardians at the East End of London, whereby out-door relief (which falls entirely upon the unions or parishes granting it) is being rapidly curtailed by offers of the District School test to numerous children. The maintenance of such children (when the offer is accepted), falling upon the Metropolitan common poor fund, and the families in any case being struck off the out-door relief lists.'

The following statements were supplied for the information of the Guardians showing the number of paupers relieved, the ratio of in-door and out-door paupers, and the amount expended in out-door relief in the St. George's (Hanover Square) and Whitechapel Unions, in the sixth week of the quarter ended Lady-day for the undermentioned years.

The reason the year 1870 is given in the case of the Whitechapel Union only, is that at Lady-day 1870 the St. George's Union was not formed, whereas it was in the course of that year that the Guardians of the Whitechapel Union were first induced to voluntarily suspend the out-door relief regulation order, and to apply strictly the out-door relief prohibitory order, which latter is still practically in force in that Union, the out-door relief regulation order being reserved only for periods of temporary extremity.

Union	Year	In-door Paupers relieved	Out-door Paupers relieved	Total No Paupers relieved	Ratio per cent.		Cost of Out-door relief
					In-door	Out-door	
St. George's	1871	2230	5454	7684	29	71	£ s. d. 394 4 4
	1872	1880	4085	5965	32	68	298 0 2
	1873	2113	3582	5695	37	63	269 8 1
	1874	1963	3182	5145	38	62	240 13 4
	1875	1856	2647	4503	41	59	218 12 7
Whitechapel	1870	1419	5339	6758	21	79	168 17 4
	1871	1219	2568	3787	32	68	120 14 3
	1872	1000	1568	2568	39	61	75 18 7
	1873	1163	845	2008	58	42	50 4 5
	1874	1154	609	1763	65	35	36 11 1
	1875	1170	346	1516	77	23	22 9 0

The motion was carried.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-second meeting (and first after the recess) on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbridge, Col. Mansfield Turner, Dr. Armitage, Messrs. D. Conolly, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

A letter was read from Mr. Wheelhouse, M.P., on the best mode of making public aid available for the education of the Blind.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head VI.:—‘To what extent should the education and training of the Blind be provided for from the rates or other public sources.’

It was resolved, on Mr. Harris’ motion:—

‘That this Committee is of opinion that it is expedient that grants in aid should be given by the State towards the education and industrial training of the Blind.’

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of October 1875 was 34,028, and 47,605 received outdoor relief, making a total of 81,633. This was an increase of 902 on last week’s returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,830, 15,654, and 19,930 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 691. This was an increase of 46 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and an increase of 5 on the corresponding day of last year.

**ORGANISED CHARITY.**—‘A proper system of charity elevates the poor,’ says the writer of ‘Two Letters on the Abuse of Charity and its Remedy,’ ‘an improper system degrades them. The evils of the present system may be summed up in a few sentences. The givers of charity act in ignorance of the condition of the persons receiving, and in ignorance of each other’s proceedings. They squander time, labour, and money; they give to the undeserving, and over-give to the deserving. They encourage and support the indolent and profligate, and demoralise the well-doing; and while they harden the hearts of charitable persons against deserving objects of charity, they leave the great body of the really deserving poor neglected. One of the great arguments in favour of [a system of visitors] is the facilities it affords to everyone for performing his charitable duties. An applicant for charity may be an impostor, and he may not. It is an embarrassing position to be placed in, to be obliged to decide without a knowledge of the facts of the case—whether you should incur the risk, on the one hand, of encouraging profligacy; or, on the other hand, of wounding the susceptibilities of an unfortunate fellow creature, and refusing a small contribution towards alleviating what may be great suffering and distress. The system of charity above described relieves us from all perplexity as to how we are to deal with such applications. We do not require to say a harsh word to, or harbour an unkind suspicion of, anyone appealing to us for aid. Neither do we require to incur the slightest risk of encouraging imposition or vicious habits. All that is necessary is to hand to the applicant the order on the visitor.’

**THE ARTISANS AND LABOURERS’ DWELLINGS ACT.**—‘The medical officers of health in the metropolis,’ says the *Metropolitan*, ‘are not letting the grass grow under their feet in carrying out their part of the duties created by the Artisans and Labourers’ Dwellings Act of the last session. In addition to the schemes for improving unhealthy areas in Holborn and Whitechapel, to which we have before referred, and which are now being dealt with by the Metropolitan Board of Works, the medical officers of health of Marylebone, St. George-in-the East, and St. George, Southwark, have all made representations to the board of the unhealthiness of certain parts of their districts, and yesterday there was a further representation from the medical officer of Whitechapel as to another part of that district.’ The medical officer of health for the City, Dr. Sedgwick Saunders, has laid a report before the Commissioners of Sewers, containing a list of places in the City coming, in his judgment, within this Act.

**WILLESDEN.**—The first quarterly report of the medical officer of the new sanitary district of Willesden, now scarcely a year old, illustrates the neglected state of a fast-increasing suburb of London, in parts only about two miles from the Marble Arch. Being outside the metropolitan area, it has been allowed to grow up, as it were, of its own accord,—hence its unsanitary condition. The new local board are doubtless doing their best to remedy the defects, but it is always some time before a new board can get into working order, and therefore they are still, we believe, without any legal building regulations. It is much to be regretted that steps are not taken to obtain an Act of Parliament, applicable to the whole kingdom, to regulate the proper construction of houses, for securing stability, the prevention of fires, and the purposes of health generally. Such an Act, so far as fires are concerned, was, we believe, recommended by a Committee of the House of Commons in 1868, appointed to consider the means of pre-

venting fires, and, as it seems to us, would be most useful in the extended form above suggested. The present permissive system of local regulations appears wanting in uniformity and completeness to make it work satisfactorily.—*Builder*.

**BEGGING LETTERS.**—The Reading Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity request us to mention that they have recently inquired into the case of K. Emans, a resident in that town, and have ascertained that she is an habitual writer of begging-letters, and is undeserving of assistance. She appears of late to have been practising on charitable Roman Catholics.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES of the Charity Organisation Society, and their Offices.

KENSINGTON—39 Holland Street, W.  
FULHAM UNION—7 Brook Green Terrace, Hammersmith Road, W.  
PADDINGTON—3 Leinster Street, W.  
CHELSEA—5A Blacklands Terrace, King’s Road, S.W.  
ST. GEORGE’S UNION—48 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.  
WESTMINSTER UNION (St. James’s and St. Anne’s, Soho)—27 Great Pulteney Street, W.  
ST. MARYLEBONE—151 Marylebone Road, N.W.  
HAMPSTEAD—Corner of Church Lane, High Street, N.W.  
NORTH ST. PANCRAS and HIGHGATE—120 Highgate Road, N.W.  
SOUTH ST. PANCRAS—17 Woburn Buildings, Euston Road, W.C.  
ISLINGTON—8 College Street, Barnsbury, N.  
HACKNEY—Old Town Hall, E.  
ST. GILES’S and BLOOMSBURY—7 Arthur Street, W.C.  
STRAND UNION—13 Beaufort Buildings, W.C.  
HOLBORN UNION—14 Myddelton Street, E.C.  
CITY OF LONDON UNION—36 Basinghall Street, E.C.  
SHOREDITCH—56 St. John’s Road, Hoxton, N.  
BETHNAL GREEN—297 Bethnal Green Road, E.  
WHITECHAPEL UNION—194 Commercial Road, E.  
ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST—194 Commercial Road, E.  
STEPNEY UNION—598 Commercial Road, E.  
MILE-END OLD TOWN—116 Mile End Road, E.  
POPLAR UNION—129 East India Dock Road, E.  
ST. SAVIOUR’S, SOUTHWARK—9 St. George’s Circus, S.E.  
NEWINGTON—Vestry Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.  
ST. OLAVE’S UNION, SOUTHWARK—172 Tooley Street, S.E.  
LAMBETH—Archbishop Sumner’s Schools, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 21 Elizabeth Street, Cornwall Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.  
WANDSWORTH and PUTNEY—The Plain, Wandsworth, S.W.  
BATTERSEA—1 Clifton Terrace, High Street, S.W.  
CLAPHAM—73 Bromell’s Road, Clapham Common, S.W.  
CAMBERWELL—1 Grove Lane, S.E.; and Meeting-house Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
GREENWICH—14 Haddington Terrace, King Street, S.E.  
DEPTFORD—Mission Hall, King Street, Broadway, S.E.  
WOOLWICH UNION—5 Eleanor Road, S.E., and 4 Oak Terrace, Shooter’s Hill Road, S.E.  
LEWISHAM—Lee Bridge, S.E.  
ELTHAM—High Street, S.E.  
SYDENHAM—The Dispensary, Forest Hill, S.E.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the District Committees should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, at their respective Offices. Contributions towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or to the account of the ‘Charity Organisation Society,’ at Messrs. Coutts & Co.’s, 59 Strand, W.C. Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the ‘District Committee Aid Fund’ of the Council.

## THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY: ITS OBJECTS AND MODE OF OPERATION.

Longmans, Green, & Co., Paternoster Row, E.C.; and at the Central Office of the Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 3d.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 153.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 10, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**THE** Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: The Earl of Lichfield (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., *Chelsea*; Major Prendergast, Major FitzRoy, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Paneras*; Rev. W. T. Thornhill-Webber, Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. M. S. A. Walrond, *City*; E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Ralph Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., *F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., St. Saviour's*; F. Du Pre Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Heathcote Long, Esq., Lambeth*; R. M. Hensley, Esq., *Wandsworth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; I. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; A. Annesley, Esq., G. Parker, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Lieut.-General Cavenagh, A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairmen*; J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., George Blount, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 40. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*; Rev. H. F. H. Burchell Herne, *Visitor*.

A letter from a lady was read, stating that a friend connected with the Government of South Australia had asked her help in finding a number of suitable respectable women and girls of from 16 to 45 years of age to send out there. They need not have been in service, but must be willing to enter service on their first arrival, though free to leave it again as soon as they liked. Widows could take daughters over 15 with them. All would be sent free of cost under safe conduct, and on arrival would be received into a Home. Reference to be made to Mr. H. W. Baker, 10 New Weston Street, Bermondsey.

Major FitzRoy said he understood that the opening was considered suitable for persons in reduced circumstances of a

somewhat higher class than that from which domestic servants were generally drawn.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Ralph Ellis had been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Poplar Committee *vice* Mr. A. L. Young.

Also that a letter had been received from the St. George's, Hanover Square, Committee stating that several charitable persons had been recently victimised by Ralph Ouseley, a man of colour and native of Demerara, living in Westminster.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending October 30 the receipts had been £21. 17s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £29. 10s. 8d. and £239. 11s. 3d. respectively.

## THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE AID FUND.

The Secretary said that he had been directed by the Administrative Committee to state that recommendations for grants on account had been already made by that Committee to the amount of £150, and that, to complete these and other grants on account, a further sum of £232 would be required; it would be seen, therefore, that contributions from the richer District Committees or elsewhere were much needed.

## MR. PEEK'S GIFT.

The Administrative Committee was empowered to repay any District Committee, simply requiring reimbursement for expenditure incurred in dealing with cases referred by the Divisional Committees of the School Board, without special sanction from Council, subject only to the Administrative Committee being satisfied that the expenditure was in accordance with the principles laid down in the circular paper of May 10th.

The Secretary stated that returns with reference to School Board cases for the quarter ending September 30 had been received from 34 out of the 37 Committees, and that 25 Committees had had cases sent to them. Several Committees had been unable to assist any of the cases sent to them; this had been so with the Kensington Committee, which had always co-operated heartily with the School Board. The Honorary Secretary had noted on the return that the cases sent were not such as could be appropriately dealt with by charity; they were usually persons in squalid misery from mismanagement.

The prosecution of an impostor was authorised.

Grants on account of £25, £30, and £25 were made to the Fulham, St. George's-in-the-East, and Poplar Committees.

Lord Lichfield stated that the Secretaryship Committee was not yet in a position to report. They had some good names before them, but would be glad to hear of any specially qualified candidates.

The Council then adjourned.



The following contributions have been received during the week ending November 6, 1875:—*Donations*: E. Coulthurst, Esq., £3. 3s.; H. D. Greene, Esq., £2. 2s.; J. C. Ireland, Esq., £5; The Marquis of Lansdowne, £25; The Earl of Lichfield, £25; A. C. Mitchell, Esq., £2; The Duke of Norfolk, £100. *Annual*: H. Cowlard, Esq. (1875 and 1876), £2. 2s.; J. B. Dalton, Esq., £1; W. F. Laurence, Esq., £1. 1s.; *District Committee Aid Fund*: A. C. Mitchell, Esq., £2.

The following business stands for Monday, November 13:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. That as considerable discredit to the Charity Organisation Society may arise by ill-advised legal proceedings, Committees be requested not to embark in any such proceedings (except in the ordinary business of the recovery of their own loans and in such cases as are provided for in the bye-laws, paragraph 19a), without consulting the Council; and that Committees be advised to exercise great caution in taking up the cases of applicants who profess to have been defrauded by Benefit and Insurance Societies.

2. That a grant of £30 on account be made to the St. Saviour's Committee.

3. That a grant of £10 on account be made to the Islington Committee.

4. That a grant of £30 on account be made to the Stepney Committee.

To receive and consider the report of the Committee appointed on October 18 to advise on the best course to be taken in reference to the vacancy created by the resignation of the Secretaryship.

### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the Shoreditch Committee.

Fourth Annual Report of the Local Government Board.

### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, NO- VEMBER 6, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by					Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total					
Kensington .....	2	6	2	10	3	2	1	6	5	1	..	6	22	10	4	15	
Fulham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	2	2	8	
Paddington .....	2	1	2	5	..	1	..	1	5	..	3	1	15	8	5	..	
Chelsea .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	..	2	6	..	..	..	
St. George's:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. George's Division.	..	7	7	..	..	1	1	4	4	..	..	4	31	5	5	..	
Westminster do.	..	5	5	10	..	4	1	5	4	..	..	4	..	2	1	..	
Westminster:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	4	4	1	10	3	14	..	..	..	..	..	18	4	9	10	
St. Marylebone .....	1	..	2	3	..	17	7	24	2	1	..	1	31	3	9	..	
Hampstead .....	2	1	1	4	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1	9	..	..	..	
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	4	..	4	..	6	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	10	3	2	1	
South St. Pancras .....	1	..	4	5	..	19	2	21	..	..	..	..	26	2	4	1	
Islington .....	9	1	..	10	..	23	..	23	4	1	..	..	38	16	..	5	
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	1	2	3	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	7	2	6	..	
Strand .....	..	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	..	1	1	..	6	8	5	1	
Holborn .....	..	..	4	4	..	15	..	15	1	..	..	1	20	..	12	..	
City .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	5	3	15	..	
Shoreditch .....	..	1	2	3	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	7	..	5	1	
Bethnal Green .....	2	..	1	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	5	1	3	..	
Whitechapel .....	..	1	..	1	1	3	..	4	..	1	1	1	6	3	2	..	
St. George's-in-the-East	1	..	3	4	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	6	..	..	..	
Stepney .....	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	1	..	
Mile End Old Town .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	
Poplar .....	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	3	1	..	..	1	5	1	5	..	
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	2	4	1	4	..	5	1	..	..	1	10	6	3	2	
Newington .....	4	1	1	6	..	3	..	3	3	1	..	4	13	2	3	1	
St. Olave's .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	2	..	2	2	
Lambeth:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
North .....	..	2	2	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	7	4	4	..	
South .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	7	4	2	3	
Wandsworth & Putney .....	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	3	6	1	2	5	
Battersea .....	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	7	10	1	1	3	
Clapham .....	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	4	1	..	17	
Camberwell:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Grove Lane .....	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	1	1	..	..	2	8	..	2	..	
Peckham .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	
Greenwich .....	2	..	3	5	..	2	..	2	2	..	1	3	10	2	..	17	
Deptford .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	1	2	4	
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	14	..	
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	3	2	..	34	
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	
Sydenham .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	8	
Total .....	33	22	65	120	7	134	18	159	49	14	7	8	78	357	104	120	160

### COMING MEETINGS.

BETHNAL GREEN.—The Annual Meeting of this Committee will be held at the Queen Adelaide's Dispensary, Bethnal Green Road, to-morrow (Thursday), at 3 P.M., Lieut.-General Cavenagh in the chair.

LAMBETH.—The Annual Meeting of this Committee will be held at the Vestry Hall, Kennington Road, on Tuesday next, the 16th inst., at 4 P.M., Mr. Alderman McArthur, M.P., in the chair.

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-third meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Mansfield Turner, Dr. Armitage, Dr. Hawksley, Dr. Moon, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, W. Harris, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee resumed consideration of Head VI.:—'To what extent should the education and training of the Blind be provided for from the rates or other public sources.'

It was resolved, on Mr. E. C. Johnson's motion:—

'That as the question would embrace so large a field of inquiry, the Committee would urge upon the Council to use their influence with the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the whole subject of State aid to the Blind.'

Also, on General Bainbrigge's motion:—

'That this Committee consider that the existing laws with reference to the Blind should be more effectually carried out, so as to place the Blind more nearly on a level with the sighted, e.g., by facilitating their education in elementary public schools; by granting to all efficient schools, for each blind child in them, special aid after inspection and in proportion to results; and by assisting systematically in the maintenance of blind adults whilst they are being taught trades.'

The Committee then proceeded to consider the miscellaneous notices.

It was resolved, on Mr. Harris's motion:—

'That in consideration of the well-known suffering and misery which result from marriages between two blind persons, this Committee strongly recommends that such marriages be discouraged and prevented by all reasonable means, especially by the proper authorities providing entirely separate accommodation for the two sexes, in schools, workshops, and at all gatherings of blind persons under their control; and by making a rule that in case any blind person receiving the benefits of their institution or charity do, after having been duly warned, marry another blind person, both such persons shall forfeit the benefits of such institution, or charity, unless it be otherwise decided by the Committee of an institution in exceptional cases.'

### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

GREENWICH.—*Annual Meeting*.—The annual meeting of this Committee took place on Saturday, the 29th ult., at the Lecture Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich. The chair was occupied by Admiral Hamilton, of Blackheath, and there were also present Major-General Bainbrigge, Rev. I. W. North (Holy Trinity, Greenwich), Rev. F. Storer Clark (St. Peter's, Greenwich), Rev. D. Reith (Christchurch, Greenwich), Mr. H. S. Richardson, Mr. J. Watson, Mr. A. Budds (hon. sec. to the Branch), Mr. Ribton-Turner (Organising Secretary to the Society), and a large number of ladies.

The Chairman said when they understood the working of the Society, they would be able to appreciate more fully the good that was being done. He was certain when they heard the report read not only would they assist the Society themselves, but advise all with whom they came in contact to follow their example. In loans the Society last year lost one per cent.; but this year it was only one-half per cent., which showed how much good had been done for poor honest persons, and the admirable rules, and it showed also that much was due to their energetic officer, Mr. King.

The Rev. F. Storer Clark then moved that those present 'were glad to hear that charity organisation committees were established in every part of the metropolis, and were of opinion that uniformity of practice amongst them was most important.' He had come to the conclusion that these organisation committees could do more good than the local clergy in relieving the really deserving, for the clergy had been continually taken in, loafers encouraged, and the deserving deprived of the help they should have received. He referred to a local effort on his part to assist the poor with loans, in which his confidence had been much abused, and, with regard to the working of the School Board, said if the Society was to extend its operations to providing clothes for the children of those parents who said they could not send their children to school for want of boots and other articles there would really be no end to its work, and they would find that instead of Mr. King wanting one assistant, he would require two or three. After alluding to the indefatigable exertions of that officer, Mr. Clark urged upon those present to become collectors on behalf of the Society, which would greatly relieve Mr. King, and if they only adopted the course he recommended, that meeting would not have been held in vain.



Mr. Ribton-Turner seconded the resolution, and said that the balance-sheet showed that the loans were in proportion to grants as eight to one, and that the Committee wish to encourage self-dependence among the poor. He thought something might be done to improve the position of the pauper with regard to the School Board, which had been touched upon by a previous speaker, and which was a matter which required the gravest consideration. A magistrate in London had a woman summoned before him by the School Board authorities for not sending to school her girl of 9 or 10 years of age, and the woman's excuse was, that she kept her child at home to mind the baby. The magistrate admitted the plea, and said if they wished him to commit the woman to prison they must obtain a *mandamus* to compel him to do so. That was a sad state of things (although he had no doubt the magistrate thought he was acting rightly) in a Christian country, where millions a year were spent in charity. Here was a girl permitted to grow up in idleness—he believed it was in the district of Holborn—and he would ask what would be the future of that girl but idleness and vice. Were there no means of preventing it? It was pretty certain that the baby could not be left at home by itself, and he was afraid if the matter had been inquired into it would have been found the mother was addicted to drink, and dirty. It was necessary that something should be done, and what he proposed was a crèche or something of that kind in the neighbourhood. He must not, however, say too much in favour of institutions, for where children were herded together in institutions, they carried away with them the habits of the institution, became what he might call institutionised and unfitted to make their way in the world. He thought they should make every boy and girl fit to take their place in the world, and that could only be done through the medium of the family circle. Instead of orphanage institutions the children could be boarded out, which would prevent much money being spent in bricks and mortar when the desired object could be attained in another way. Then, again, there was the want of power in the lower strata of human nature to run in the right grooves. They had a large number of vagrants; their prisons were filled for every variety of crime; but idleness and crime were connected, and the majority of their criminals came from the vagrant class. The public would not give the beggar into custody, but gave him what he asked for. The beggar having been thus encouraged, the question arose whether something cannot be done to reclaim him and make him a useful member of society. He thought they should be able to show in each district a diminution of pauperism year by year, and not an increase in the number of persons they themselves relieved. And they were not doing their work well if they claimed support on the ground of the extra number relieved. It was their duty to lessen mendicity. Some of the points he had touched upon he thought would come home to some of them, and tend to the reduction of pauperism. If they had a large pauper class, they had a body who looked with envy at the classes in comfort, and it did not occur to them that they could do anything to help themselves, as they had only been educated as parasites, and were dangerous to society. The Committees could not attain their object if they were disunited, and should help one another, and give each other the benefit of their advice, and to meet the common foe of both rich and poor there must be a system of close co-operation.

General Bainbrigge, in supporting the resolution, said that he hoped all would read the report carefully to enable them fully to understand what the Committee are doing, and that, as regards their *success*, they might ask the tradesmen, who would tell them that beggars did not annoy their customers as they formerly did; the district visitors would say that great permanent benefit had resulted from their sending the poor to their office for loans without interest, and the members of the School Board would express their satisfaction at the aid afforded in dealing with cases in which want of clothing was mentioned as a reason for children not going to school. He also said that he hoped the ladies especially would recollect the words of Scripture, 'Consider the poor'—that is, consider whether the help they give is such as will permanently improve the condition of the poor. With regard to the cases coming before the School Board, he must observe that there are different kinds of 'cases of distress.' Cases were sometimes manufactured thus: a man wants money to get drink, he pawned his children's clothing, and when they are in rags he says that they cannot go to school. Care must be taken not to manufacture such cases.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by the Rev. I. W. North, and seconded by the Rev. D. Reith, closed the proceedings.

#### THE ORGANISATION OF CHARITY IN HULL.

On Thursday, the 4th inst., a large and influential public meeting was held at the Town Hall, to consider the formation of a Charity Organisation Society in Hull. The Mayor (Alderman Wells) presided, and there were also present the ex-Mayor (Alderman Seaton), the High Sheriff of Yorkshire (Mr. W. F. Bethel), the ex-High Sheriff (Admiral the Hon. Arthur Duncombe), Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P., the Sheriff of Hull (Mr. Snmmers), the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. Travis), the Town Clerk (Mr. G. C. Roberts), the Law Clerk to the Board of Health (Mr. Todd), and Councillors Priestman and T. J. Smith (hon. secretaries of the movement).

A resolution of the Board of Health, promising assistance to a Charity Organisation Society, having been read, and the Mayor having explained the objects of the meeting,

Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P., then moved 'That it is desirable to establish in Hull an Association, to be called the Hull Charity Organisation Society, for the improvement of the health and condition of the poor, and for repressing mendicity.' He found there were in existence, and had been for many years, several similar organisations. He found in England alone fifty such Societies, and that some of them were founded a great number of years since, but a great majority of them were of recent date, having sprung up within the last four or five years. The parent Society, as it might be called, in London, had, he found, forty District Committees, and in addition to these Societies in their own country, foreign countries and America had similar organisations. He thought all present must feel—there could be no doubt about it—that in initiating this Society in Hull they were doing what could only be productive of great good. (Hear, hear.) From the large meeting they had, he felt no doubt that their fellow-townsmen would have great pleasure in giving their cordial and also their material support in placing the Society on a safe and proper footing. (Hear, hear.) He had very great pleasure in moving the resolution, thinking that it was one which must be to the benefit of the town and district. (Applause.)

Mr. Travis seconded the proposal, remarking that the Society proposed had for its primary object the welfare of the poor. Now, the poor could not be got rid of, and anything they could do to assist in helping them it was their bounden duty to do if not interfering with organisations already existing. But, with regard to the latter part of the resolution he could speak more confidently, for he had had considerable experience during the last thirty years as to the close connection between mendicity, vice, and crime. (Hear, hear.) He could say with confidence that the Society, which would take the matter in hand so as to systematise the relief of the deserving poor, would at once strike a vital blow to the general organised system of dissipation and wretchedness practised by beggars, and do an immense amount of good. (Applause.) On that point alone, if there were no other good, he felt the movement should have his utmost support. Anything he could do to support the Society would be done with the greatest possible pleasure. (Applause.)

Mr. J. Booth thought that those who knew anything about the working of Societies such as the one proposed, would agree that the step was a proper one to take. Some few years ago he resided in Leeds, and he took pleasure in supporting a Society then organising. That Society had worked well.

Mr. J. Reekitt was glad to be able to say that there was already an organisation which was somewhat analogous to the one proposed, as through the officers of the School Board they were able to find many necessitous cases, and these cases were only discovered by the officers paid to look after the work. Of course the Society would appoint officers of their own to substantiate any claims which might be made, and he presumed that one suitable class to be relieved was the one the School Board was brought in contact with. Some most distressing cases were brought before the Board, and it was sufficient to say they were not the beggars who came to their doors and asked for bread or money, but those who remained in back streets and garrets, and only came forward when influenced to do so by the School Board or their own knowledge of what was right, and desiring to get their children to school. (Applause.) The health of the town was the wealth of the town, and even some of the working men's clubs had been seriously affected by the number of sick thrown on them during the last year or two. The funds of one club, he knew, had been almost exhausted by the number of sick on the books. It was absolutely necessary that something should be done on behalf of the working classes, and he believed they would be glad to pay more rates if their districts could be rendered more healthy. He felt something would be done towards assisting them if they organised in Hull a charity such as the one proposed. (Applause.)

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The Rev. J. McCormick (Holy Trinity) said that he, perhaps, was amongst the few persons in the room who had had anything to do with a charity organisation society. Some time ago, in the part of London where he resided, they started what was called a Mendicity Society, and afterwards put themselves into connection with the Charity Organisation Society. The good they were able to effect in a very short space of time was something surprising. In his parish they had the famous Mill-lane, a place notorious for the number of beggars and tramps who went to reside there, and where he believed most of the Fenians, at the time of the Fenian conspiracy, were arrested. In consequence of this lane and other low places in the neighbourhood, the respectable residents were incessantly infested with beggars at their houses; but after they had organised their society they were able to get rid of these beggars, so that instead of seeing three or four in the street whenever he went out, scarcely one was met with in a day's walk. The system adopted was that an officer was chosen, who had a particular room assigned to him, and he was in this room at given hours. Any person who was a supporter of the society received a packet of tickets, so that if a beggar called at his house for relief one of the tickets was handed to him, and he could go down to the charity office—if he



chose to seek help there—and on presenting himself his address was taken, and the charity officer went to the address given to investigate the case, afterwards supplying relief if he found the applicant to be a deserving character. If he were merely a tramping mendicant, he perhaps got a little assistance did the charity officer think it was necessary; and in this way they soon got rid of the beggars. It was found they did not care to receive the tickets, and gave up troubling the residents at their homes. The fact was, a large number of these beggars had lived simply by the trade of begging, and when they found it would not pay, they left for Hull or some other place (a laugh) at any rate they got rid of them from Deptford. Another good effected by the society—and he thought it ought not to be lost sight of—was this, that from time to time they had cases of artisans who, through some cause or other, had got into difficulties, and, perhaps, had been compelled to pawn their tools. To such persons a little help was a great boon. They did not give them money, but lent them it; and he was thankful to be able to say that in the majority of cases—in fact it was an exception when the contrary occurred—the money was returned, even though many of such persons had emigrated to America and elsewhere. He hoped they would put themselves in connection with the Central Society in London, for he was sure if they had to find out themselves how the proposed society had to be worked, they would be wasting a considerable amount of trouble.

Mr. T. J. Smith stated, in reply to a remark made by the Rev. J. McCormick, that the originators of this movement in Hull had already been in communication with the metropolitan society, who had sent down a number of their books and papers bearing on the subject.

The officers and a committee having been appointed,

The Rev. W. C. Walsham (Sculcoates) moved a vote of thanks to the Right Worshipful the Mayor, 'for his readiness to call the meeting, to allow the use of the Town Hall, and to preside so ably thereat.'

Mr. Walliker seconded, and the motion was cordially carried.

The Mayor, in acknowledging the compliment, intimated that when the society was started he should hand over to the officials the recommendations he at present possessed for various medical and other charities, and refer applicants for such recommendations to the society, who could investigate their claims.

[We may state, in reference to an expression in the report of Mr. McCormick's speech, that it is the practice of the London Society to give tickets with the address of the Office to all who apply for them, not to supporters only.]

#### ADOPTION OF THE FREE SYSTEM AT THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.

We learn from the *Birmingham Daily Post* that an adjourned meeting of the Governors of the Queen's Hospital, to consider the report of the Income and Expenditure Sub-committee recommending the abolition of the privilege system, took place on the 1st inst. The Rev. C. Clarke presided; and amongst those present were the Rev. Canon Wilkinson, the Rev. J. C. Blissard, the Rev. Willoughby Wilkinson; Mr. G. Dixon, M.P.; Messrs. J. T. Bunce, G. J. Johnson, jun., W. H. Dixon, G. F. Muntz, and R. Chamberlain.

The Chairman opened the business by reading the resolution which was before the meeting when the debate was adjourned on the 9th of July. It was as follows:—'That this meeting approves generally of the recommendations of the Sub-committee's report, and instructs the Committee to consider and decide on the mode and time in and at which such recommendations shall be carried into effect.'

Mr. Muntz moved, and the Rev. J. C. Blissard seconded, a series of amendments in favour of ascertaining the fitness of all applicants, supplying printed forms of certificates to subscribers, and charging a registration fee of 6d. After a brisk discussion, in which Canon Wilkinson referred to the inconvenience caused to the poor when they were obliged to travel about to obtain a ticket of recommendation, the amendment was put and lost, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. G. J. Johnson, seconded by Captain Bullock, it was resolved, 'That the privileges of governors and subscribers, enumerated in Laws 3 to 15 inclusive, shall cease with the current annual subscribers; and that the Committee be instructed to endeavour to obtain from all life governors a surrender of their privileges.'

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of October 1875 was 34,470, and 47,954 received outdoor relief, making a total of 82,424. This was an increase of 791 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,694, 15,875, and 20,902 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 716. This was an increase of 25 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 5 on the corresponding day of last year.

**THE WEST SUSSEX MENDICITY SOCIETY.**—At a meeting of the Central Committee of this Society, held on Thursday, at the Council Chamber, Chichester, under the presidency of Lord Leconfield, the Hon. Secretary, Capt. Montgomerie, read the following report:—My Lords and Gentlemen, I beg to lay before you a report of the working of the West Sussex Mendicity Society, which commenced issuing tickets on the 3rd of January in this year. Since that time 4,381 bread tickets have been presented to the 49 bakers and exchanged for bread, being 1 ton 19 cwt. 3 lbs. For the year ending 29th September 1874, there were 164 persons apprehended under the Vagrant Act; in this year there have been 138; and during the nine months that the Society has been at work 23 persons have been apprehended for begging, against 64 in 1874 in the corresponding period. In the different union-houses where the police relieve tramps, in the year ending 29th September 1874, there were 6,885 tramps relieved, and in this year 5,263, being a decrease of 1,622. The following are the numbers of tramps relieved in the different unions throughout West Sussex, to which a new union has been added at East Preston since 1874:—

	1874.	1875.
Quarter ending 31st March ...	1,623	1,218
" " 30th June ...	1,961	1,370
" " 29th Sept. ...	1,875	1,103
	<u>5,459</u>	<u>3,691</u>

(Decrease 1,768.)

In the city of Chichester, where the tramps are relieved by the Borough Superintendent, the numbers for the respective quarters were:

Quarter ending 31st March...	200	185
" " 30th June ...	283	174
" " 29th Sept. ...	285	136

(Decrease 273.)

768 495

**MANCHESTER PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES' ASSOCIATION.**—The *British Medical Journal* of Saturday contains a letter from Mr. O'Hanlon, in which he explains the arrangement between the Friendly Societies and the Provident Dispensaries' Association, referred to in the *Reporter* of October 27. He argues that the arrangement is for the interest both of the Friendly Societies and the medical men, and says that, though the Club Doctors and some other medical men dislike the system, many members of the medical staff have expressed their entire satisfaction with its financial results. One doctor says that 'his private practice has doubled since he joined the dispensary'; another, that 'his dispensary work is as well paid as any work in connection with a practice amongst the poor'; another is in receipt of £250 a year from his dispensary alone, although he joined but three or four months ago and, I believe, had not been in practice before. This fact is becoming more and more prominent, that the Manchester Provident Dispensary system, when fairly established, will well recompense the medical men who give it a fair trial.

**THE NATIONAL PENNY BANK, LIMITED.**—This company, which has for its object the promotion of thrift by affording facilities for the exercise of thrift which are not at present afforded by the Post Office or other Savings Banks, has commenced active operations. The first branch, at 257 Edgware Road, was opened on the 9th October. In three weeks 1,978 deposits were made, and £353. 14s. 1d. taken. On Saturday and Monday evenings the bank is so crowded that it is as much as the two clerks can do to attend to the depositors. The branch at 195 Hackney Road opened on the 26th October, and during the first six nights 480 deposits were made and £17. 8s. 4d. taken. The branch at 7 Cannon Street Road, Wapping, opened on the 28th October, and on the first four evenings 213 deposits were made and £7. 17s. 2d. taken. Branches will be opened in a few weeks in Brompton, Oxford Street, Waterloo Road, Old Street Road, Stepney, &c., and in as many schools and workshops as possible.

#### THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY: ITS OBJECTS AND MODE OF OPERATION.

Longmans, Green, & Co., Paternoster Row, E.C.; and at the Central Office of the Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 3d.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

'THE CHARITY ORGANISATION REPORTER' will be sent direct from 15 Buckingham Street, post-free, for 1½d. s. d.

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Those who wish to subscribe are requested to allow their names to be entered as 'subscribing till further orders'; in this case payments need not be made in advance. Orders can only be entered for a year or other definite periods if accompanied by a remittance.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 154.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 17, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

District Committees which have not yet reported to the Council the number of Letters for the Children's Hospital brought to them during the three months ending September 30, and how many they declined to stamp, are requested to furnish this information in pursuance of the notice of the 3rd instant.

Committees which had no Letters brought to them during the same period are requested to inform the Secretary to the Council of this by post-card.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, *Kensington Committee*; Major Yard, Sir R. M. Stephenson, J. R. Holland, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., *Chelsea*; Major Prendergast, P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Manrice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett-Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. M. S. A. Walrond, *City*; Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., H. Lavers-Smith, Esq., Rev. S. A. Barnett, *Whitechapel*; A. G. Crowder, Esq., E. L. O'Malley, Esq., Mrs. Barnett, E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; Ralph Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; S. C. Bosanquet, Esq., F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; F. Du Pre Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; F. Green, Esq., J. H. Ward, Esq., *Buttersea*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., George Blount, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., Dr Hawksley, C. A. Miner, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 47. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

## INUNDATION IN LAMBETH.

Mr. A. H. Hill asked whether any information had been received with reference to the inundation at Lambeth of the previous night. It was stated in the *Globe* that a Relief Committee had already been formed.

The Secretary said that no information had been received at the Central Office, but that the District Offices were no doubt aware of the emergency. They had had experience of a similar calamity in March 1874, and had, he believed, been of material use to the Relief Committees by making inquiries for them.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen said that careful inquiry was very necessary at such times. During the former inundation the Bethnal Green Committee had been asked to inquire into the claims of a resident in their district, who alleged that he had had a number of things swept away in the flood. The story proved to be quite false.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending November 6 the receipts had been £166. 8s. for the General Fund, and £2 for the District Committee Aid Fund, and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £126. 13s. 11d. and £161. 11s. 3d. respectively.

That they had received a Report from the Sub-Committee on Visits to Offices, and had referred it to the Finance and Inquiry Sub-Committees, which had been requested to hold over their joint Report on the distribution of the work of the Office till the Visits to Offices Sub-Committee had reported.

And that they had ordered payment of two accounts of £7 and £1. 8s. to the Newport Market Refuge, for food supplied to two families, under a special arrangement, pending inquiry.

The Secretary explained in reference to this payment, that it was contrary to the rule for the Central Office to undertake the relief of individual cases, but that these families had been referred to the Council by provincial Societies, and that these charges had thus been incurred by the Council, and not by any District Committee. Country Societies had been requested not to send up cases in future without allowing time for an exchange of letters.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

A recommendation of the Administrative Committee (printed as a notice in last week's *Reporter*) with reference to the action of District Committees in regard to legal proceedings was referred back to the Administrative Committee on the motion of Sir A. Gordon, chairman of that Committee.

A grant of £30 on account was made to the St. Saviour's (Southwark) Committee.

A comparative statement of the cases dealt with by the St. Saviour's Committee in the years 1874 and 1875 was read, showing that they had increased from 178 to 339, exclusive of 100 inquiries for other Committees, and 18 homeless cases.



Consideration of a grant to Islington was postponed, the Administrative Committee having sent up a recommendation for a grant of £20 in addition to the £10 of which notice had been given.

A grant of £30 on account was made to the Stepney Committee.

#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARYSHIP COMMITTEE.

A Report was brought up from the Secretaryship Committee signed by Lord Lichfield, recommending that Mr. C. S. Loch, Hon. Sec. of the Islington Committee, and at present in the Secretary's Department of the College of Surgeons, be appointed Secretary, at a salary commencing at £300 a year.

The Chairman said that the only thing that had made the Committee hesitate about their recommendation of Mr. Loch was his comparative youth; this was a defect he was likely to outgrow.

It was stated that Mr. Loch had taken a second class in Modern History at Oxford in 1872, and had gone through all the preliminary steps necessary for being called to the Bar; he had had two years' experience of secretarial work in the College of Surgeons, and had entered with great spirit into the work of the Society, first as a member and then as an Hon. Secretary of the Islington Committee, having gone to reside in Islington in order to be near his work. Mr. Loch was prepared to give his whole time to the work of the Society.

The Rev. J. D. McGachen moved:—

That the Report be received, and that Mr. Loch be offered the secretaryship at a salary commencing at £300 a year.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson seconded the motion. He thought it very inexpedient to make any provisional arrangement. It was desirable that the new Secretary should come to the Office as soon as possible.

Mr. Wightman Wood questioned the propriety of the Council coming to a decision on so important a matter without having had the Report in their hands for a longer time.

The Chairman pointed out that the Council had directed that notice should be given of the Report, in order that they might be at liberty to consider and adopt it without delay.

Mr. Ralli thought that it would be well to come to a decision at once. The Council had referred the matter to a Committee and could not do better than accept that Committee's recommendation.

After some further discussion the motion was put and carried, 28 voting for it, and none against it.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending November 13, 1875:—*Donations*: R. Burnett, Esq., £10; Miss Courtenay, £3; St. Marylebone Committee, £5. *Annual*: Miss Courtenay, £2; Miss Ewart, £3. 3s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: The Duchess of Grafton, £5; St. Marylebone Committee, £20.

The following business stands for Monday, November 22:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. That when inquiry is asked for as to any companies which have appealed to the public for support on charitable grounds, information should be given as to whether they are or are not commercial ventures.
2. That a grant of £30 on account be made to the Islington Committee.
3. That a grant of £25 be made to the Fulham Committee.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fifth week of October 1875 was 34,689, and 48,346 received outdoor relief, making a total of 83,035. This was an increase of 611 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,541, 16,412, and 21,381 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 576. This was a decrease of 140 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 135 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, NO- VEMBER 13, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	4	6	..	10	..	3	1	4	3	..	3	..	6	20	8	2	3
Fulham .....	2	1	1	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	4	10
Paddington .....	3	..	2	5	..	4	1	5	3	..	1	1	5	15	8	4	..
Chelsea .....	..	1	2	3	..	4	4	8	1	..	..	..	1	12	2	3	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division ..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	20	14	4	2
Westminster do. ....	1	4	4	9	..	3	..	3	2	1	..	3	3		8	1	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	3	3	2	..	..	2	2	6	..	7	..
St. Marylebone .....	1	3	7	11	1	12	3	16	..	1	..	3	4	31	6	6	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	..	1	3	..	1	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	2	3	..	10	1	11	..	..	..	..	..	14	1	2	..
South St. Pancras ....	1	..	7	8	..	14	1	15	..	..	2	..	2	25	3	8	1
Islington .....	1	..	2	3	..	21	1	22	2	..	..	..	2	27	4	4	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury ..	1	1	1	2	..	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	2	6	..	5	..
Strand .....	1	..	1	2	..	6	..	6	2	..	..	..	2	10	10	6	..
Holborn .....	1	..	4	5	1	15	..	16	1	..	..	..	1	22	4	13	..
City .....	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	2	1	..	..	3	6	5	6	..
Shoreditch .....	2	5	7	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	1	1	1	12	..	2	1
Bethnal Green .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	1	..
Whitechapel .....	3	..	3	..	1	4	5	..	1	..	..	1	1	9	2	3	..
St. George's-in-the-East ..	1	1	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	2	11	..	2	1
Stepney .....	3	..	3	1	1	3	5	1	1	..	..	1	1	9	9	1	..
Mile End Old Town ..	1	..	3	4	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	13	..
Poplar .....	1	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	2	..
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Lambeth:— { North ..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	3	10	4	2	..
{ South ..	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney ..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	3	7
Battersea .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	2	..	..
Clapham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	10
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	1	..	..	1	3	..	3	..	2	..	..	2	2	9	..	3	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	3		..	3	..
Greenwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	2	6	6	5	1	14
Deptford .....	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	4	1	2	4
*Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4	1	20
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	12
Total .....	26	31	60	117	6	105	24	135	31	11	7	13	62	314	110	123	96

\* No return received from this Committee at the time of going to press.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-fourth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Fyers, Col. Mansfield Turner, Dr. Armitage, Dr. Hawksley, Dr. Moon, Rev. B. G. Johns, Messrs. T. Clarke, D. Conolly, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, Edmund C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, R. Bruce Reid, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

It was pointed out that the words 'and instruction' should have been inserted after 'maintenance' in the resolution passed last week on General Bainbrigge's motion.

A printed paper prepared by Mr. Wilkinson, setting forth the present state of the law in its bearing on blind children and adults, was submitted.

The thanks of the Committee were voted to Mr. Wilkinson on Mr. E. C. Johnson's motion.

The Committee then proceeded to consider the form of the Report.

Col. Mansfield Turner moved:—

'That while it is desirable that the Report should fully embody the resolutions passed at the various meetings, the resolutions themselves be not published in the Report.'

After discussion, the motion was put and negatived, 5 voting for it and 9 against it.

**THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.**—The fourth annual meeting of the Charity Organisation Society for Brighton, Hove, and Preston will be held in the Royal Pavilion on Monday next, November 22, at 3 p.m., the Mayor (Henry Abbey, Esq.) in the chair.



DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**BETHNAL GREEN.**—The fifth annual meeting of this Committee was held on Thursday last at the Queen Adelaide's Dispensary, Pollard Row, Lieutenant-General Cavenagh, Vice-chairman of the Council, in the chair, supported by the following ladies and gentlemen: Mrs. Aubrey, Mrs. McGachen, Miss McGachen, Miss Bontein, Revs. S. Hansard, M.A., C. Kirton, B.A., J. Sumners, Mr. Wooding, Dr. Mainwaring, Rev. J. D. McGachen, hon. sec., and others. Letters were read from the Right Rev. Bishop Beckles, D.D., Rev. H. G. Henderson, and Mr. J. Sapsford, regretting their inability to attend.

In opening the proceedings the Chairman said a great many of the public still believed that the promoters of the Charity Organisation Society were hard-hearted political economists, but he denied that such was the case; he believed that the principles of the Society, if carefully carried out, would be a blessing to the poorer classes. They wished that charity should go to the deserving poor, and not be thrown away in indiscriminate relief. Mendicity is an organisation, and must be met by an organisation, so as to root out begging-letter writers and others who have for many years lived on the benevolence of the charitable. He believed that charity would be more liberal when it was understood that no help would be given except to those who, after strict inquiry, were found to be deserving. (Cheers.) The hon. secretary then read the following report:—

The year just closed has been one of steady work and uniformly good attendances at Committee meetings. The ladies who had been hitherto prevented from attending and taking an active part in our proceedings have been regular and interested, and their practical experience in the district has been of great advantage in the decisions arrived at.

Mr. Peek's gift of £1,000 per annum, for three years, to the Charity Organisation Society, for the special benefit of the poor unable to send their children to the Board Schools, has caused an unexpected demand upon the time alike of the Committee and the agent, and the inquiries thus rendered indispensable have tended to confirm the opinion of all interested in the poor, that there are other and more distressing reasons than at first sight would appear for nearly all cases of established wretchedness. The Committee are, however, faithful in carrying out the strict letter of the instructions of the Central Council, as agreed upon with Mr. Peek, and his munificent generosity will have more direct influence than was perhaps at first supposed in unveiling the real causes of neglect and ignorance. The School Board officers are acting loyally and prudently with the Committee, and express their approval of the searching investigations as conducted by our agent, and it is confidently anticipated that the munificence of Mr. Peek may solve in an almost unexpected way the question which has engaged the attention of all interested in East London for years, viz. How to account for such apparent discrepancies in the same class of the poor and the conditions of different families under similar circumstances of earnings and expenditure. The School Board visitors deserve every consideration from the Committee for their kindly co-operation.

The Committee regret to observe that the more exhaustive the investigation only the more patent is the absolute necessity for the inquiry; but it is hoped that the poor will gradually become convinced of the determination of the charitable to help only the deserving, and leave those who can but will not help themselves to be dealt with by a less sympathising and more exacting agency.

It will be observed that the number of cases under investigation is in considerable advance of last year. The 'Loan Fund' has been more extensively used, and in almost all cases the repayments have been punctually made.

The increased number of persons applying at the office of their own accord is a proof of the greater publicity acquired by the office, and of its more 'established position' amongst the institutions of the parish.

The Committee venture to view another year's gratuitous labours with satisfaction, and, while drawing attention to the list of cases dealt with, and the samples given in the appendix of their 'decisions,' to express a hope that by firmness, kindness, and discretion, guided by the known principles of the Society, 'Charity' may yet be proved the handmaid of thrift and misfortune, and not a blind and mischievous subsidiser of extravagance and vice.

It is with deep regret that this Report must close with the announcement of the death of the late hon. financial secretary, Mr. R. J. Donovan, who, both by his pen and in the press, was a warm friend and liberal advocate of this Society.

The Rev. Septimus Hansard, in moving the adoption of the report, said he could bear testimony to the necessity of the Society in Bethnal Green, and thought that too much praise could not be given to the Committee, and more especially to the honorary secretary, Rev. J. D. McGachen, for their trouble not only in attending the weekly meetings, but for the attention they pay to the cases brought before them. He also wished to acknowledge the kind and discreet manner in which their agent carried out his duties. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. L. Corkran, seconded the resolution, and expressed his belief in the ultimate success of the principles of the Society.

Mr. Mainwaring, in support, thought that the more the Society was developed the more good it would do.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Rev. J. D. McGachen moved the re-election of the following ladies and gentlemen on the Committee: Chairman, The Rev. Septimus Hansard, M.A.; treasurer, Sir T. F. Buxton, Bart.; hon. secretary, the Rev. J. D. McGachen, M.A.; W. M. Alexander, Esq., Mrs. Aubrey, Right Rev. Bishop Beckles, J. Barber, Esq., Miss Bontein, Mr. C. L. Corkran, E. Dent, Esq., C. W. Greenwood, Esq., Rev. J. Harrison, Rev. H. G. Henderson, Rev. J. Jeakes, M.A., Rev. C. Kirton, B.A., Rev. R. W. Loveridge, J. D. Link, Esq., Miss McGachen, J. G. Mainwaring, Esq., M.R.C.S., J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. Sumner, Rev. William Tyler, Mr. W. Wooding. He said he wished to thank the ladies present for their kind co-operation on the Committee during the past year. They had been of great assistance in deciding many of the cases brought before them. He next referred to Mr. Peek's gift to the Society of £1,000 per annum for three years, to

assist the children of poor parents who pleaded that they could not send their children to school for want of boots and clothing. He felt that if the Committee had done nothing more than attend to the cases sent by the School Board authorities, they had done enough to justify the existence of the Society in Bethnal Green. (Cheers.)

The resolution was seconded by Rev. J. Sumner, and carried.

Rev. Charles Kirton moved, and Rev. S. Hansard seconded, a vote of thanks to General Cavenagh for presiding, which was carried unanimously.

General Cavenagh briefly replied, and the proceedings closed.—*Tower Hamlets Independent.*

**School Board Cases.**—During the past few weeks, says the *East London Observer*, the Bethnal Green Committee have dealt with 24 cases sent by the School Board for investigation and assistance. In each case the parents stated that the children could not go to school for want of boots and clothing. More than ordinary care has been exercised in making the investigations, so that no injustice should be done to the applicants by a onesided inquiry, and to enable the Committee to arrive at the real cause of so much wretchedness and misery.

The 24 cases were decided as follows:—10 found deserving, to all of whom boots were given, and in some cases clothing; 3 undeserving; 7 not requiring relief; and 5 were found to be cases that could only be successfully dealt with by the Poor-law.

The following is a brief outline of the cases dismissed by the Committee as 'Undeserving,' 'Not requiring relief,' and 'Referred to the Poor-law.'

**Undeserving.**—Case 1,396: a man, wife, and five children; wife stated that four of the children could not go to school for want of boots. Inquiry proved the man to be a confirmed drunkard, hardly ever sober.—Case 1,398: a widow and five children, two able to work: application for a boy and girl, aged 11 and 8 years; home wretchedly poor and dirty; the applicant never married; lived with two men, and had children by each. The last man, who has just left her, is a married man, and father of another family; his wife still alive. The applicant and her family lived and slept in one room not three yards square.—Case 1,411: a man, wife, and six children: application for boots for two children. This man is a book-binder, and in constant employment, earning 36s. per week; two girls are also at work; the united earnings of the family amounting to 50s. per week. The man drinks, and the home is very filthy and wretched.

**Not Requiring Relief.**—Case 1,413: a man, wife, and five children; three of the children not going to school, having no boots. Application made by the wife, who could not give her husband's employers, and when the agent called he was informed that her husband would rather not have inquiries made about him; would do without the charity and buy the boots himself.—Case 1,420: A man, wife, and four children; application for boots for the eldest child. Inquiry proved the man to be intemperate, and when the agent visited the case he was told that they did not want charity; had bought the boots and the child was at school.—Case 1,432: A widow and two children; application for boots and trousers. Upon inquiry it was found that the woman stands in the streets with her two boys, begging. The agent saw the boys and they were decently clothed.—Case 1,438: a woman applied for boots for her two children, and stated that her husband only gave her 20s. per week. Upon inquiry it was found that the man was in constant employment, and his wages were 35s. per week. Total earnings of the family 45s. per week.—Case 1,406: a man, wife, and five children; woman applied for boots for two children, and stated that her husband's work was very slack, and he was not earning more than 15s. per week. Could not say where he worked, but would let the agent know when he called. The agent visited the case next day, and was informed that the husband refused to give any information; did not wish inquiries made about him; could do without charity, and buy the boots himself. Case 1,446: application for boots for children; woman stated that her husband's work was very slack, and he only earned 12s. per week. Before inquiries were made, the applicant called at the office and said her husband did not wish to have inquiries made about him; would buy the boots himself and send the children to school.

**Poor Law.**—Case 1,404: a widower and four children: application for boots and clothing for the two youngest. Inquiry proved the man to be in a chronic state of poverty; the eldest girl, who is big enough to take care of the children, grossly neglects them, and is a source of trouble to her father, and will only work when she likes. The man has been continually helped by his friends till they can do no more. The home is very wretched, and the children ragged and dirty.—Case 1,408: a widow, and two children: applicant stated she could not send her boys to school for want of boots. The woman is a hawker about the streets, and earns a very precarious living; she had been a pauper on and off for several years, and her children were in the parish schools at Leytonstone, but she took them out; they are now in a most wretched state. The applicant has been helped by a district agency with money to get stock, but she spent the money in drink.—Case 1,413: a man and wife and four children; one a hopeless idiot: application for help to get the idiot into an asylum. The parents were found to bear an excellent character, but the Committee could not deal with the case, except by referring it to the 'Poor Law.'—Case



1,433: a woman and three children; husband in prison, having been sentenced to six months for felony: application for boots and clothes. This case was before the committee two months ago, when the applicant applied for help in a false name, and said that her husband had been sent to gaol for an assault. Upon inquiry, it was found that he was convicted for felony. Applicant and her children are in a hopeless state of poverty, and would be better off in the workhouse.—Case 1,443: a widow and four children: application for boots for the two eldest, aged 12 and 9 years. Upon inquiry, it was proved that applicant had been a pauper on and off for years, and will not let her children go to the parish schools; she is a regular cadger, and is continually applying to the district agencies for help.

#### ABERDEEN ASSOCIATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.

On Tuesday the 9th inst., the annual meeting of the subscribers to this Society was held in the Square Room, Music Hall Buildings. Lord Provost Jamieson in the chair.

The Lord Provost said—‘Ladies and gentlemen, this is the sixth anniversary of this Society, and I am sure that there is no Society in Aberdeen that does more good than—I think I may almost say that does so much good as—this Society does. It was a happy idea indeed that originated it, and I am sure that we could ill want its efforts at this time. (Applause.) The principle upon which the Society proceeds is not to support the poor so much as to enable the poor to support themselves. All that is done is in this direction. No doubt the Society has to expend considerable sums of money when it meets cases of extreme distress; but the great object is to stimulate the poor in assisting themselves. I am sure that the persons who have had anything to do with the poor, in endeavouring to carry out their conscientious convictions as to promoting their elevation, must feel that this Society is a very great help to them. (Hear, hear.) It enables them to not only find out the poor, but to make sure that they are deserving people. Many persons come to us—to all of us—now and again, and solicit our charity, and we have been many a time led by their solicitations to give them sums of money, and we have afterwards found that these sums of money were thrown completely away; that we were merely supporting mendicancy and promoting it. Whereas, if now a case comes before us we have but to send to the secretary of the Society, and we shall get the whole case so explicated that we can come to a conclusion at once as to whether we should give money to the party applying, whether we should support them, and how long we should continue to support them. We get a history of the case at all events, and that should guide us intelligently how to act. You are aware that this Society sets itself to find employment for those willing to work. A person may be in want, and in want because he cannot find employment, because he cannot find anything to do; and he has but to apply to our secretary, and he will make at least an effort, and, if possible, will find him employment. Then again, we assist those who, from unforeseen causes, from a long series of sickness in the family or otherwise, are completely cast down—(hear, hear)—and who are almost obliged to cast themselves into the arms of the parish for aid. We do support them; we must support them; and we support them until they are enabled to get up from their exceedingly exhausted pecuniary condition, and until they get some heart to proceed again in the support of themselves and family. (Applause.) Then we find that there are a great many societies in this town instituted for the very end of supporting the poor. Many persons that are deserving of the aid of these societies do not know how to apply, and even do not know of the existence of these societies. This Society, by the entire knowledge that they have of the means that exist in the town for the support of the poor, are enabled to direct them to these sources, and where the case is a proper one, and where the charity is applicable to the case, then they are enabled to get something from it. I was very much struck in reading the report at the advantages of such a society in bringing, in a very small matter, those wanting employment and those wanting service together. In the case of the late snow-storm, it appears that by the Society supplying those who were out of employment with a pick and a spade, and sending them with a card from the Association, they were very quickly employed by a number of persons wanting the side pavement cleared of snow. So much was this the case that it appears in a very short time there were more applications for men to do this work than they had service to give. I was struck in reading the report, too, as to the repayment of sums received by parties from the Society. It showed at least that this Society had done some considerable amount of good by preventing individuals from slipping down into the slough of pauperism. (Applause.) We have in connection with this Society, as you all know, a Prisoners’ Aid Society, and from the report you will find that some good has been done there. The Society is scarcely in full operation yet, but very evidently it will be of considerable benefit in enabling prisoners who are willing to do well to get into employment, placing them so as that they shall be enabled to earn their livelihood in an honest way. You know how thoroughly prejudiced families and individuals are against receiving

a person who has been a criminal; and, however anxious they may be to return to the paths of virtue and propriety, there is a very great difficulty to get any of us to receive them into our families. Well, this Society is for the purpose of doing something towards this, and I hope it may be successful. We have, lastly, hero, the Flower Mission, which, I am sure, has done as much good to the young ladies who have been carrying it on as it has done to the poor people who have been so benefited and pleased by a kind word and the presentation of a flower at their sick-bed.’ (Applause.) His lordship concluded by mentioning that a letter of apology for inability to be present had been received from the Marquis of Huntly, who stated his intention of subscribing £25 to the funds of the Society.

The report for the year was then read by the secretary, Mr. Milne.

Sheriff Comrie Thomson, in moving its adoption, said: We wish to bring sympathy into action, and we wish to guide that action, after due inquiry, by the exercise of sound judgment—(hear, hear)—sympathy brought into action, and action preceded by inquiry, and regulated by discretion. Something like that, I take it, is what this Association aims at. We desire to extinguish, or at least we desire to frown upon mere barren, inoperative sympathetic feeling and mere expression of sympathy, and we insist that if a man feel sympathy, or says so, he shall show it by what he does. (Applause.) And, further, we undertake as far as we can, for our fellow citizens who have not leisure or opportunity of doing so, to see that this sympathetic action shall be wisely guided. (Applause.) Further, it is a prominent feature of this Association that we do not ask our supporters merely to give us money. Money we must have, but I take it there is no association in the community in which so little money is used in doing so much good. A great deal more is wanted than money. We want something better than money. We want the noblest part of man’s nature. We want his heart, and we want his head.

The motion was seconded by Ex-Baillie Esslemont, and carried.

The Rev. A. M. Fairbairn moved that the Association deserved the continued support of all classes of the community. It is a great matter, he said, that the charity of this city should be organised charity, doing its work in systematic ways, and this Association is but the organised charity of Aberdeen systematically doing work amongst its poor. (Applause.) It is well distinctly to remember that there is nothing that so takes the fine edge off self-respect and self-reliance from the spirit as parochial aid or the necessity of seeking charity from door to door. It is an evil thing for a man to be a beggar for the man himself. Archbishop Whately once said, ‘Pay a man for working, and he will work; pay a man for begging, and he will beg;’ but the loss of it is that while the man becomes better by working, he becomes worse by begging, and it becomes a good service to the community to reduce the number of those who seek aid and manage to obtain it. It is well distinctly to remember that, while this is a charitable association, it is, as has been said, not an association for giving charity. It is far more important to lift people above the necessity of needing it and seeking it, than of giving and teaching them to expect to receive day by day charity.

The motion was seconded by Dean of Guild Walker, and agreed to.

The Lord Provost moved a vote of thanks to the Acting Committee, and to ex-Provost Nicol, their chairman.

Ex-Provost Nicol, in returning thanks, said he hoped that the work would continue to receive the support and encouragement of the people in Aberdeen, because he really believed that, in the course of time, if the committees and the visitors could be kept up, it would soon go far to supersede the necessity for Parochial Boards. (Hear, hear.) I should much rather, he said, see the poor supported by voluntary contributions, in this way, than in the way we are obliged to do by the rate. I do not expect that that will be done in a few years. I think it will take some years; but I am of opinion that when the young who are now being educated come to be grown men, the State should distinctly tell them that they who have been educated at the public expense shall never receive one farthing of legalised charity, that they must look out for themselves in time, and be prepared to meet their own necessities during their time—all those, at all events who are able-bodied and able to make their living. (Applause.)

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 155.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 24, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, F. J. S. Edgecombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; R. A. Aspinall, Esq., *Chelsea*; Major Prendergast, Major Sanford, *St. George's*; R. Mills, Esq., *Westminster (St. James' and St. Ann's)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., *Miss Octavia Hill, St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; F. Burdett-Roberts, Esq., *Islington*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; R. Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., W. F. Smith, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; J. H. Cole, Esq., *Deptford*; Capt. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; J. W. Willis-Bund, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 35. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

### DEATH OF MR. MIDDLETON.

A letter was read from the St. George's, Hanover Square, Committee announcing the death of Mr. A. G. Middleton, a representative of that Committee, and referring to his painstaking work in East London and elsewhere.

Mr. J. R. Hollond reminded the Council that Mr. Middleton had been one of its early supporters, and had done the Society excellent service, first as a member of the East End Enquiry Committee, and then as its Chairman.

A letter was read from the Lambeth Committee, stating that Mr. Powell had resigned the joint Hon. Secretaryship of the Committee owing to ill-health, and had been succeeded by Mr. Heathcote Long.

A letter was read from the St. Saviour's Committee, stating that Mr. W. F. Smith had been appointed a representative during Mr. Courthope Bosanquet's absence.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending November 13 the receipts had been £23. 3s. for the General Fund, and £25 for the District Committee Aid Fund; and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £124. 16s. 1d. and £120. 2s. 6d. respectively.

### INQUIRIES ABOUT COMPANIES.

Major Prendergast moved the following recommendation of the Administrative Committee:—

That when inquiry is asked for as to any companies which have appealed to the public for support on charitable grounds, information should be given as to whether they are or are not commercial ventures.

He referred to the results that had come from the Report of the Society's Committee on Dwellings, and urged that as much information had been accumulated, the Council ought to be prepared to express an opinion about the various agencies which were preparing to carry out the improvement of the dwellings of the poor, in concert with the authorities to which the working of the Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Act had been entrusted.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson seconded the recommendation. It was clearly the duty of the Society to furnish such information, in the interest both of the philanthropists and of the poor.

The Secretary stated that he frequently received letters asking for information about Provident Dispensaries, Dwelling Companies, and other agencies, which were of a more or less self-supporting or even commercial character, but were intended to benefit the poor. It had always been one of the objects of the Society to act as a centre of information in regard to charitable agencies, and he thought that charitable agencies should for this purpose be construed in a wide sense.

Sir A. Gordon desired to move, as an amendment, that the words 'charitable institutions' should be substituted for 'commercial ventures.'

The Rev. H. I. Cummins thought it a mistake to try and draw a sharp distinction between charitable and commercial agencies. Some charitable objects could be best attained by acting on commercial principles. He would second Sir A. Gordon's amendment, and would suggest the addition of the following words: 'but not as to their probability of success as commercial ventures.'

After some further discussion the recommendation was adopted, in the following form:—

That when inquiry is asked for as to any companies which have appealed to the public for support on charitable grounds, information should be given with regard to the charitable aspect of the undertakings, but not as to their probability of success as commercial ventures.



## GRANTS.

The Council then took into consideration a recommendation that a grant of £30, on account, be made to the Islington Committee.

Mr. Burdett Roberts stated that the Islington Committee had inquired into a very large number of cases for the Royal Free Hospital and the Children's Hospital; they had had to put on a second inquiry officer in order to meet the demands on them.

Mr. J. R. Hollond called the attention of the Council to the fact that they had really no money to grant. The apparent balance to the credit of the District Committee Aid Fund had been contributed by Mr. Peek for a special object, and the balance of the General Fund would be required to meet current liabilities at the end of the month.

Mr. Willis-Bund moved that the consideration of the grant be postponed.

The motion was put and lost, 3 voting for it, and 9 against it; and the recommendation was adopted, with the addition of an instruction to the Administrative Committee to pay the amount as soon as funds are available.

Consideration of a grant of £25 to the Fulham (and Hammersmith) Committee was deferred.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contribution has been received during the week ending November 20, 1875:—*Donation*: E. Chaplin, Esq., £5. 5s.

The following business stands for Monday, November 29:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. *a.* That while District Committees should certainly not refuse to investigate the cases of persons applying to them, whose distress is alleged to have been brought on by their having been defrauded by benefit societies, enquiry into the general bona fides of the societies themselves (unless they have issued charitable appeals) should not be instituted, but the investigation should be limited to the particular transactions of such societies with the individual applicant.

*b.* When District Committees have come to the conclusion, from their own investigation, that a clear case of fraud on the part of any society has been made out, they are strongly urged not to embark in any legal proceedings in reference to it, without laying the case before the Administrative Committee.

2. *a.* That the Council undertake all canvassing and collecting in the City, assisted, if they should require it, by such aid as the City Committee can afford.

*b.* That the City Committee send in an estimate at the commencement of their financial year of their probable expenditure; that this be considered a first-charge upon moneys collected in the City, and be paid in equal quarterly payments on the 1st of January, 1st of April, 1st of July, and 1st of October.

*c.* That all subscriptions paid, from whatever source, to the City Committee, shall be handed over at the end of each quarter to the Bankers of the Council.

3. That a grant of £25 be made to the Fulham Committee.

4. That a grant of £10 be made to the Whitechapel Committee.

Mr. W. Day to move.—That the continuous application to the Council of this Society for grants, by some of the District Committees, is opposed to the principles of self-support. That it arises more from want of better organisation than from poverty. That a house-to-house collection and free distribution of Charity Organisation Society's Tickets, properly carried out, should enable each District soon to become self-supporting.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-fifth meeting on Wednesday last, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Major-General Bainbrigge, Col. Evers, Messrs. W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, R. Bruce Reid, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The Committee resumed consideration of the miscellaneous notices.

Major-General Bainbrigge moved:—

'That the Committee, finding that at least one-half of the Blind now receiving instruction or working in the metropolitan institutions come from

the country, recommend that this system, whereby many of the blind residents are neglected, should be checked by establishing more workshops in those counties in which none exist.'

The previous question was put and carried, it being understood that a reference to the importance of convenient centres in different parts of the country should be introduced into the draft Report.

The first of the motions of which Mr. Wilkinson had given notice was carried in the following form:—

'That the framers of the Report be requested to inquire into the present legislation for the Blind, and to communicate with the several public authorities in whom the powers given by legislation are vested, for the purpose of ascertaining how far they can be made available for the benefit of the Blind.

It was resolved, on Mr. Wilkinson's motion:—

'That it be suggested to the Institutions that they should invite Government Inspection.'

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, NO- VEMBER 20, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	2	1	3	6	1	4	1	6	4	3	7	19	5	5	6		
Fulham .....	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	5	1	2	3	4	5	4			
Paddington .....	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	5	2	2	1	6	14	11	6		
Chelsea .....	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	5	1	2	3	8	2	3			
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	5	1	3	9	1	2	2	4	2	2	2	33	12	1	3		
Westminster do.	2	1	5	8	2	1	2	5	3	2	5	3	4				
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	4	3	2	5	3	9	2	4		
St. Marylebone .....	1	5	3	9	1	8	8	17	3	1	4	21	9	9			
Hampstead .....	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	4	1	1	2	3	12	13			
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	2	1	3	6	1	7	7	14	1	1	2	3	12	13			
South St. Pancras ....	1	3	8	12	1	13	4	17	1	1	2	22	10	2			
Islington .....	2	2	4	6	1	16	1	17	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Hackney .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	1	5	1	2	3	6	2	5			
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	1	1	1	2	1	5	5	10	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Strand .....	2	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Holborn .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
City .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Shoreditch .....	2	2	4	6	1	16	1	17	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Bethnal Green .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Whitechapel .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
St. George's-in-the-East	3	1	4	7	1	16	1	17	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Stepney .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Mile End Old Town ..	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Poplar .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
St. Saviour's .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Newington .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
St. Olave's .....	2	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
South .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Wandsworth & Putney	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Battersea .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Clapham .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Peckham .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Greenwich .....	2	1	3	5	1	3	3	6	2	4	1	7	14	3	12		
Deptford .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Woolwich .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Lewisham .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Eltham .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Sydenham .....	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	3	12	13			
Total .....	30	27	70	127	7	105	21	133	48	18	8	18	92	352	142	125	105

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of November 1875 was 34,956, and 48,322 received outdoor relief, making a total of 83,278. This was an increase of 243 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,751, 17,385, and 21,941 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 553. This was a decrease of 23 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and an increase of 30 on the corresponding day of last year.

**LEAMINGTON.**—The *Royal Spa Courier* says, that it is proposed to hold a meeting to support the cause of charity organisation in Warwickshire, and particularly in Leamington.



DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

**CITY.**—*Information from Guardians.*—At the meeting of the City Board of Guardians on the 16th inst. the Rev. H. I. Cunnamins moved—‘That the relieving officers be instructed to give to the officers of the Charity Organisation Society, upon application, the same reasonable information with regard to paupers on the books of this union as is furnished by the other unions in the metropolis.’

Mr. London seconded the motion, which was strongly opposed by Mr. Bengough, who argued that by passing this proposition the Board would single out this particular society for their approval—in his opinion a most objectionable proceeding. Any guardian, he added, anxious to assist this society, could himself personally obtain any information he might require concerning any pauper, without such an instruction as the above being issued to their relieving officers.

Mr. Boor opposed the motion, and thought the Board should strongly protest against the proceedings of the Charity Organisation Society.

Mr. Hatchett and Mr. Freeman also disapproved of the motion in its present form, and some further discussion ensued, after which it was agreed that the resolution should be amended so as to read as—‘That the relieving officers be permitted to give to the officers of the Charity Organisation Society, upon application, reasonable information with regard to paupers on the books of this union.’

The motion, thus amended, was put and negatived by a large majority.—*Metropolitan.*

**LAMBETH.**—*Annual Meeting.*—This Committee held its annual meeting at Kennington Vestry Hall on Tuesday the 16th inst., Mr. Alderman M<sup>r</sup>Arthur, M.P., in the chair. There were present Canon Fisher, Colonel Neville, Mr. Hart, the Rev. Allen T. Edwards, jun., Mr. G. W. Barnard, Mr. C. J. Ribton-Turner, the Rev. Jeffrey Worthington, Mr. S. S. Tayler, Mr. Douglas Brown, Q.C., and others.

The Rev. Allen T. Edwards (Hon. Sec.) read the annual report, which said that the Committee were glad to report the continued success of the particular kind of work which the Society undertook to perform, and it proceeded to describe what that work was—that it was not for the purpose of relief, so much as for organising charity and for providing the machinery for investigating cases, so as to prevent the funds of the charitable from flowing into wrong channels, and to direct the course of charity to the aid of the deserving. The report referred to the acknowledgment which the principles of the Society had received from the hands of the Government and local authorities, the magistrates, as well as in the extended and extending aid sought from the Society's officers by charitable societies and persons; and it spoke of the aid given to the hospitals to prevent those institutions from being the subject of abuse by persons who could afford to pay for medical advice and medicine. With regard to the numbers of persons who have come under the Committee's attention during the year, the report stated that 212 had been dismissed; 50 as not requiring relief, 113 as ineligible, and 49 as undeserving. There had been 100 recommended; namely, 26 to the Poor Law, 46 to district agencies, 23 to private persons, and 5 to charitable institutions. The numbers relieved had been 175; namely, 124 by grants, 28 by loans, 21 by letters to hospitals, and 2 by employment; making in all 487 cases. In addition there had been 103 reports on cases sent out, 176 inquiries from other Committees, and 24 vagrants relieved with bread; being a total of 790 cases dealt with. The report stated that whenever money was sent to the Committee to distribute, it was applied to the purposes for which it was sent without any deduction whatever. With regard to the loan system, only £4. 9s. 6d. had had to be written off as lost in the last four years. The Committee regretted to say that the balance-sheet was not of so encouraging a character as last year, for it showed only a balance of £26. 10s. 11d. as against £148. 13s. 1d. of a year since.

The Chairman said he thought that the principles and objects of the Society were too well known to need any explanation. If any information were needed, it could be obtained in the Society's papers. Mr. Ribton-Turner, one of the Society's indefatigable Secretaries, whom he was glad to see present, could give the results of practical experience in the work. For his (the Chairman's) own part, he could say that if the Society had done nothing but clear the streets of the mendicants who used to beset the public, it had done a work worthy of its existence, for wherever the Society worked, there the professional beggar was unknown. In another important work, too, the Society had been most successful—the detection of the fraudulent impostors who used to ‘work’ upon the charitable, and Mr. Ribton-Turner and the authorities in Buckingham Street had been most successful in bringing to public notice the shameful frauds which used to be perpetrated. The report had touched upon the use made of the Society by the charitable institutions, and notably by the hospitals. One remarkable illustration was the investigation carried on in regard to the Royal Free Hospital; it was found that no less than 49 per cent. of the applicants for medical relief were in a position to obtain for themselves the aid they sought from charity. There was another service which the Society had rendered to the public, for which it deserved the warm

support of all, and that was the work it had done in regard to the dwellings of the artisan classes. The Committee of the Society issued a very startling report, which aroused attention to the condition of the poor as regards their dwellings; and the Home Secretary, in bringing forward his measure of last session referred to that report, and acknowledged its practical value by basing his proposals for legislation in many points on the Committee's recommendations. It was to be hoped that the day was approaching when the existing miserable wretched hovels in which the poor were sheltered would be swept away, and give place to better dwellings—for thereby the material and spiritual welfare of the people would both be advanced. He was glad to see that the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Corporation of London had both taken up this subject, and he trusted there would be a practical issue to the labours of the Society. Regarding the loan question, he thought this branch might be well extended, and he then proceeded to refer to the disastrous floods which the day before had thrown many persons in the parish into destitution. He thought that the time had come when the Metropolitan Board of Works should take the subject of preventing these recurring calamities into consideration—for he thought such flooding was quite preventible, and he proceeded to express the warmest sympathy for the sufferers, and to direct attention to the aid necessary for their relief.

The Rev. A. T. Edwards said he had just received a note stating that Mr. Chance, the magistrate at Lambeth, had sent to say that 100 tons of coal had been presented by Mr. A. Booth of the Midland Railway Coal Company, and that the distribution would be left in the hands of this Committee. This, Mr. Edwards said, was proof of the estimation in which the Committee was held by the magistrate.

Mr. Barnard, in moving the adoption of the report, said the comparative smallness of the constituency he had to address showed that the subscribers to the Committee had every confidence in the work carried on. He quoted the words of Lord Selborne in regard to the necessity of all charity being discriminate, and proceeded to urge that the Society's work was to extend true charity, for as imposture impeded charity, so the establishment of confidence, as the Society purposed, extended the work of the charitable. He regarded the loan system as a more efficient mode of assisting need than by giving money, and the Committee had been most successful in this, as the smallness of its losses testified. The aid given from the Lambeth Police Court (£50) was a satisfactory proof of confidence, and showed that the magistrates knew the need of inquiries being made, for the money was not given for distribution, but to lead to discriminate charity. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. J. Ribton-Turner seconded the motion, and made a lengthened and interesting speech in regard to the efforts being made on the continent to lessen pauperism and poverty. He showed that the authorities of different nationalities were fully alive to the importance of this question, and were working energetically to lessen the numbers of those who lived upon legal and charitable aid; and this, too, he said, in face of the fact that the numbers who so lived in these different nationalities were vastly less than the army of people who in England lived on the charitable or on the poor rates. He declared that by the numbers of those who lived on charity abroad being reduced, production would be increased, and that the country which had the largest number of those who lived on others would be hardly beset in the race of life, for a heavy pauperism hung like a millstone around the neck of labour.

A person who gave the name of ‘Mr. Joseph Foster’ here rose, and said he wanted to speak. He said that five weeks ago he applied to the rector of his parish for relief, being ill, and the rector gave his case over to the Charity Organisation Society, who made inquiries, and then never gave him an answer. The speaker said he considered his was a case which ought to be relieved, and he thought it was a disgrace to the Society if it did not relieve every person who applied to it, as he understood it had an income of £4,000,000 or £5,000,000 a year. (A laugh). What he wanted was immediate aid, to be sent to the seaside, and then established in some little business.

Some questions were asked of Mr. J. Foster, and it was elicited that he had applied to the Committee of the adjacent district in which he lived, and the chairman promised that attention should be directed to the case.

The motion was then carried.

The Rev. J. Worthington then moved the second resolution: ‘That this meeting, sincerely impressed with the importance of the efforts of the Committee (as sketched in the report), pledges itself to further their operations by every means in its power.’ The speaker urged that steps should be taken to organise the clergy, dissenters as well as church, to explain from the pulpits the objects of the Society; for, he said, he was sure that these objects were not generally known.

Mr. S. S. Tayler seconded the motion, and urged that the parishioners should support the Committee with funds, as the Committee's successful efforts materially lessened the rates.

The motion was adopted; and on the motion of Mr. Douglas Brown, Q.C., seconded by Mr. Hart, thanks were voted to the chairman for presiding, and to the churchwardens and overseers for the use of the Vestry Hall.

The meeting then closed.



**POPULAR.—Co-operation with Guardians.**—It is reported in the *Metropolitan* and other papers, that at the last fortnightly meeting of the Board of Guardians, a member of the Board, Mr. Martin, said that 'a short time ago a woman who had a brother in New Zealand came before the Bow Relief Committee, and asked for assistance to enable her to go to her brother who had forwarded her £17 towards the cost of conveying her and her children out. This, it appeared, was not sufficient, and about £12 more was required. The Committee being powerless, they directed the relieving officer to apply to the Charity Organisation Society. That had been done, but nothing had resulted.' There appears to have been some misunderstanding about this, for the Poplar Committee had taken the case in hand some time before, and finding it deserving, had obtained the necessary money for outfit and railway fare from various charities. The woman and her five children started for Plymouth on Monday the 15th, on their way to New South Wales, where her brother is living.

**SCHOOL BOARD CASES.**—The following letter has been recently addressed to a District Committee:—

'Dear Sir,—I am directed by the Administrative Committee to say, in reply to your letter—

1. That Mr. Peek's Gift is available for the relief of any case of distress referred by the Clerk of a School Board Committee, provided such relief is in accordance with the principles of the Society. A School Board case, I may point out, for Mr. Peek's purpose does not necessarily mean a case in which children need help to get to school, but any case of distress which the School Board visitors meet with.

2. That such a person as you speak of is suitable for assistance from our funds, in the form of clothes for children or otherwise, if her character and position are such that assistance is likely to be of substantial and lasting use to her, and if such assistance cannot more properly be obtained from another quarter, e.g. relations, local charities, or Poor Law.

3. That boarding out is not, generally speaking, suitable for any but orphan children, and in this case should be at the expense of the Guardians rather than of an Organisation Committee.

'I enclose a copy of the arrangement with Mr. Peek, and of *Reporter* No. 137, containing a letter from the Council on this subject, in case you should not have them at hand.—I am, yours truly, CHAS. B. P. BOSANQUET.'

**M'CULLAGH TORRENS' ACT.**—At the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works last Friday, it was referred, on Mr. Richardson's motion, 'to the Works and General Purposes Committee to consider and report the advisability of the Board seeking such an extension of the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act, 1868 (known as Torrens' Act), as will enable the Board to put in force its provisions within the metropolis.' The Vestries and District Boards are at present the only authorities who have power to put M'Cullagh Torrens' Act in force in the metropolis. It is obvious that unless its provisions can be used by the Metropolitan Board, to which the working of the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act is entrusted, there is danger of the latter Act furnishing a premium on houses which are allowed to fall into a state unfit for human habitation.

**METROPOLITAN POOR LAW CONFERENCE.**—The adjourned Meeting of the First Annual Conference of Metropolitan Poor Law Guardians will be held at 1 Adam Street, Adelphi, on Monday, the 29th inst., when the discussion on 'The Law of Settlement and Removal' will be resumed. The chair will be taken at 11 o'clock by the Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P.

**CENTRAL POOR LAW CONFERENCE.**—The Fifth Central Conference of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Poor Law Guardians will be held at 1 Adam Street, Adelphi, on Wednesday, December 8th, at 11 o'clock. The opinions of the representatives will be taken on the present state of the law of settlement, and a Paper will be read on the subject of 'Out-door Relief as it affects Wages.' The Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., will preside.

**CHARITABLE RELIEF IN FRANCE.**—It appears from an article in the 'Bulletin' of the Bureau de Bienfaisance of Geneva, based upon the report of the inspectors of the department of 'La Bienfaisance Publique,' that the number of persons having received state-relief in ten large towns of France has been, in two towns (Lille and Rheims) 31 per cent. of the population; in one town (Toulouse) 13 per cent.; in two towns (Rouen and Havre) 12 per cent.; in one (Lyon) 10 per cent.; in three (Paris, Marseilles, and Nantes) 9 per cent.; and in one (Bordeaux) 8 per cent. Taking the whole number of French towns (13,367) in which Bureaux de Bienfaisance are established, it appears that one person in every thirteen had, in the year 1871, received state-relief; whereas in 1833 only one person in fifty-four had been so assisted. From 1847 to 1871 (that is in a period equal to two-thirds of the former period) the increase in the number of Bureaux de Bienfaisance was from 9,336 to 13,367, or 43 per cent.

**CROYDON.**—The annual meeting of the Croydon Charitable Society will be held in the Small Public Hall on Friday next, November 26, at 8 P.M. Immediately after the meeting a conference will be opened on the subject of almsgiving. Ladies and gentlemen interested in the distribution of charity, or in the real welfare of the poor, are invited to attend.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** of the DISTRICT COMMITTEES for 1874, bound up with the SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COUNCIL, price 2s. 6d., post free 3s., can be obtained on application to the SECRETARY, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

## THE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY: ITS OBJECTS AND MODE OF OPERATION.

Longmans, Green, & Co., Paternoster Row, E.C.; and at the Central Office of the Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 3d.

### Publications of the Charity Organisation Society,

To be obtained at the Office of the Society, and through Messrs. Longmans, Paternoster Row, and all Booksellers.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 156.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICE.

The Newcastle Charity Association have removed their office to 3 Carlisle Square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Alsager Hay Hill, Esq. (in the chair); Sir Alexander Gordon, Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; Miss Emma Howes, *Fulham*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., R. A. Aspinall, Esq., Capt. Boyce, R.N., *Chelsea*; Major Fitz-Roy, P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., *Major Prendergast, St. George's Union*; H. Peto, Esq., R. C. Mills, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., *Miss Octavia Hill, St. Marylebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; Miss Collett, *South St. Pancras*; C. S. Loch, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles's*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Hamilton Hay Hill, Esq., Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Rev. H. I. Cummins, *City*; Rev. H. G. Henderson, *Shoreditch*; J. Sapsford, Esq., Rev. J. D. McGachen, *Bethnal Green*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C. L. Corkran, Esq., *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End*; R. Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., W. F. Smith, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; G. P. Bidder, Esq., jun., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; W. Day, Esq., H. Reid, Esq., *Sydenham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Stephen Fuller, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Member*; total, 44. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

A letter was read from the St. George's Committee stating that Mr. Ralli, M.P., had been appointed a representative during the absence of Lord William Compton.

A letter was read from the Islington Committee stating that Mr. H. Matthews had been appointed a representative during Mr. Burdett Roberts' absence.

A letter was read from the North St. Pancras Committee stating that Mr. W. Legg had been appointed an Hon. Secretary of the Committee.

## THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The Secretary read a summary of returns of Children's Hospital cases during the three months ending September 30. He stated that 3,498 cases had been registered at the Hospital during that time; that was to say, 3,498 patients had received letters and had been told that before a second attendance they must get a District Committee to stamp them in proof that the statements they had made as to earnings were correct. It appeared from the returns that 1,487 letters only were brought to the offices; of these 1,213 were stamped, and in the case of 266 the stamp was refused.

Mr. Bidder called attention to a scurrilous statement about the Society which had been sent to a friend of his.

It was stated that a similar statement had been sent to many of the supporters of the Society. A number of persons whose interests the Society had interfered with had banded themselves together for the purpose of discrediting it.

Mr. Hollond thought that the statements, though circulated, would not necessarily be read. If the Society did its work properly such attacks would not hurt it.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending November 20 the receipts had been £5. 7s. for the General Fund, that there had been no receipts for the District Committee Aid Fund; and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £44. 1s. 9d. and £105. 6s. 10d. respectively.

The Committee sent up a Report of the Sub-committee appointed by them in February to consider the Reports of the District Committee Visitors and of the Organising and Assistant Organising Secretary, with a view to strengthening and consolidating the Society's work in the several districts of the metropolis; also a joint Report of their Finance and Supervision Sub-committees, to which this Report had been referred, and recommendations of their own on these Reports.

It was ordered that the Reports should be sent to all Hon. Secretaries and representatives of District Committees, and to Additional Members of Council.

## COLLECTION IN THE CITY.

The recommendations with reference to Benefit Societies having been postponed, the Committee proceeded to consider the following recommendations:—

2. a. That the Council undertake all canvassing and collecting in the City, assisted, if they should require it, by such aid as the City Committee can afford.

b. That the City Committee send in an estimate at the commencement of their financial year of their probable expenditure; that this be considered a first charge upon moneys collected in the City, and be paid in equal quarterly payments on the 1st of January, 1st of April, 1st of July, and 1st of October.

c. That all subscriptions paid, from whatever source, to the City Committee, shall be handed over at the end of each quarter to the Bankers of the Council.

Mr. J. R. Hollond having moved the adoption of the re-



commendations, the Rev. H. I. Cummins explained that the City Committee were of opinion that the Council ought to be at liberty to collect funds in the City. At the same time it would not do to have two collections going on together; the Committee had, therefore, suggested that the Council should collect for both bodies. The recommendations had been agreed to at a conference of members of the City Committee and members of the Administrative Committee. He suggested that the word 'equal' should be omitted from the second recommendation.

After some further discussion the amendment was agreed to with this modification.

## GRANTS.

The Secretary stated that the Administrative Committee had considered the financial position of the Society. The apparent balance in the District Committee Aid Fund was not available for ordinary grants to Committees as it formed part of Mr. Peek's gift. The Committee were of opinion that the immediate wants of District Committees should be supplied by borrowing from the General Fund. About £80 had been contributed to that fund during the preceding week, and it was to be hoped that December would bring in contributions to both funds. The Administrative Committee desired, however, to press on members of Council the importance of endeavouring to obtain contributions.

A grant of £25 to the Fulham Committee having been moved by Mr. Hollond,

Mr. Day called attention to the large amount granted to Fulham and other Committees during the last three years. He thought that in all but the poorest districts a Committee, after it was once fairly started, should be self-supporting.

After some discussion the recommendation was adopted, as was the recommendation of a grant of £10 to Whitechapel.

The Council then adjourned.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending November 27, 1875:—*Donations*: Mrs. Bathoe, £2; Miss Octavia Hill, £4. 4s.; T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., £10; S. R. Townshend Mayer, Esq., 10s. 6d.; J. L. Walker, Esq., £10; A. Young, Esq., £2. *Annual*: Right Hon. Sir C. B. Adderley, M.P., £2. 2s.; E. Bayley, Esq., £1; Major-General Blunt, C.B. £1. 1s.; Mrs. E. W. Blunt, £1. 1s.; Rev. Dixon Brown, £1. 1s.; H. Bonham Carter, Esq., £2; Mrs. Bonham Carter, £2; Lieut.-General Cavenagh (1876), £2. 2s.; J. C. Colvin, Esq., £1. 1s.; A. Hutton Croft, Esq., £1; F. Crowder, Esq., £2. 2s.; W. Day, Esq., £1. 1s.; Dr. Dobell, £1. 1s.; Mrs. Henry Eden, £1; Miss Octavia Hill, £1. 1s.; T. Hughes, Esq., Q.C., £1. 1s.; Lady Jenner, £1. 1s.; Capt. Liebenrood, R.N., £1; Lord Napier and Ettrick, £2. 2s.; C. Payne, Esq., £1. 1s.; Miss Phillips, £10; Heathfield Smith, Esq., £2. 2s.; Smith, Fleming, & Co., £2. 2s.; W. Spottiswoode, Esq., £1. 1s.; Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., £1. 1s.; G. Sturge, Esq., £1. 1s.; Miss E. O. Ward, £1; A. G. Watson, Esq., £5; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., £1. *District Committee Aid Fund*: J. Austen, Esq., £21; E. Bond, Esq., £5; T. J. Phillips Jodrell, Esq., £10; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., £1.

The following business stands for Monday, December 6:—

To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. *a.* That while District Committees should certainly not refuse to investigate the cases of persons applying to them, whose distress is alleged to have been brought on by their having been defrauded by benefit societies, inquiry into the general bona fides of the societies themselves (unless they have issued charitable appeals) should not be instituted, but the investigation should be limited to the particular transactions of such societies with the individual applicant.

*b.* When District Committees have come to the conclusion, from their own investigation, that a clear case of fraud on the part of any society has been made out, they are strongly urged not to embark in any legal proceedings in reference to it without laying the case before the Administrative Committee.

2. That a grant of £30 be made to the St. Olave's Committee as soon as funds are available.

3. That a grant of £35 be made to the Mile End Committee as soon as funds are available.

4. To consider Reports of the Visits to Offices and Joint Finance and Supervision Sub-committees of the Administrative Committee, and the recommendations of the Administrative Committee thereon.

Mr. W. Day to move:—

That the continuous application to the Council of this Society for grants, by some of the District Committees, is opposed to the principles of self-support. That it arises more from want of better organisation than from poverty. That a house-to-house collection and free distribution of Charity Organisation Society's Tickets, properly carried out, should enable each District soon to become self-supporting.

Mr. J. R. Hollond to move:—

That Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet be elected an additional member of Council.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, NO- VEMBER 27, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	1	6	8	15	1	2	2	5	4	..	..	..	4	24	12	6	11
Fulham .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	4	5	4	6	12
Paddington .....	1	..	2	3	..	4	..	4	..	..	2	5	7	14	12	4	..
Chelsea .....	..	..	2	2	..	4	..	4	2	1	..	..	3	9	..	..	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	1	1	1	3	..	1	1	2	2	1	..	..	3	23	11	4	..
Westminster do.	1	3	2	6	1	6	..	7	1	..	1	2	2		6	2	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	1	..	..	1	..	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	9	6
St. Marylebone .....	4	2	6	12	..	4	2	6	1	3	1	1	6	24	4	9	..
Hampstead .....	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	5	..	4	..
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	..	1	..	7	1	8	..	..	..	..	..	9	3	3	1
South St. Pancras .....	3	..	5	8	..	9	1	10	..	..	2	..	2	20	6	7	..
Islington .....	5	2	1	8	..	15	1	16	2	1	..	..	3	27	18	2	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	1	..	2	3	..	3	3	6	2	..	..	..	2	11	2	2	..
Strand .....	..	1	3	4	..	3	..	3	3	..	..	3	..	10	5	5	..
Holborn .....	..	..	2	2	..	11	1	12	4	1	..	..	5	19	2	20	..
City .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	3	5	24	..	..
Shoreditch .....	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	2	3	..	1	4	..	8	1	4	..
Bethnal Green .....	2	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	1	7	11	4	3	..
Whitechapel .....	1	1	4	6	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	2	..
St. George's-in-the-East	..	..	3	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	5	5	3	..
Stepney .....	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	6	..
Mile End Old Town .....	..	..	6	6	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	8	1	5	..
Poplar .....	1	..	3	4	..	3	4	7	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	1	..
St. Saviour's .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newington .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Olave's .....	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	4	..	4	..
Lambeth:— { North .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	6	1	3	..
{ South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	4	2	2	..
* Wandsworth & Putney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Battersea .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	..	4	..
Clapham .....	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	3	..	6	2	15	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	4	..	..	4	..	11	..	1	..
Peckham .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..		..	1	..
Greenwich .....	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	4	..	4	..	6	2	1	15
Deptford .....	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	5	1	1	5
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	4	..	4	..	8	..
Lewisham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	3	..	5	5	2	17
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	..
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	10
Total .....	28	25	60	113	5	89	19	113	39	20	6	20	85	311	127	146	132

\* No return received from this Committee at the time of going to press.

## REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Deptford and Sydenham Committees.

Report of the 6th Annual Poor Law Conference for the South-Eastern District (Knight & Co., 6d.)

Pauperism in Southampton: a reprint of a series of letters published in the *Hampshire Independent* during September and October 1875. By R. W. Wandby Griffin.

Charity Organisation: with special reference to the Glasgow Society. By John S. Robertson, Secretary of the Glasgow Association.

A letter addressed to the Governors and Subscribers of the Plymouth Public Dispensary. By W. H. Alger.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the second week of November 1875 was 35,300, and 48,440 received outdoor relief, making a total of 83,740. This was an increase of 462 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,414, 17,790, and 21,912 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 502. This was a decrease of 51 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and of 81 on the corresponding day of last year.



## COMING MEETING.

HAMPSTEAD.—The Annual Meeting of the Hampstead Committee will be held in the Boardroom of the Guardians, New End, on Saturday next, December 4, at 3 P.M., J. R. Hollond, Esq., in the Chair.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

HACKNEY.—*Annual Meeting.*—The annual meeting of this Committee was held on the 23rd ult. at the Old Town Hall, Mare Street, when there was a tolerably numerous attendance, and Mr. Robert King presided.

The Chairman expressed the pleasure he had in meeting the subscribers to the Society on that annual occasion, to whom the Committee might render an account of their stewardship. After dwelling on the progress that had been made since the Committee was first formed, he went on to say that one of their objects as a society was not being fulfilled as could be desired—namely, the organisation of charity. They had seen the different measures he had referred to passed in consequence of the advance of public opinion, and how the legislation indicated had succeeded. But in the organisation of charitable relief they had met with a considerable amount of prejudice amongst what he might call the 'denominational charity-mongers' of all sects, each sect giving away its charity, feeling that it was doing so for its own benefit, but not giving really for the benefit of the recipients. This was what the Society had had to contend against. Let them, therefore, not be faint-hearted. Let them go on with their work as the great work to be achieved. The overlapping of charities had done much mischief; and they must preach, and preach, and preach again until men felt there was a responsibility in giving, the object of the giving being the good of the receiver. The Poor Law drew a hard and fast line, and left a blank in cases of sudden emergency and loss which it was the province of the Charity Organisation Society to fill, stepping in and preventing a family suffering from calamity from lapsing into pauperism, by means of loans and grants of money. The Society had been successful in the way of giving grants and thus saving families from pauperism; and he trusted its influence in the parish of Hackney would gain ground.

The Rev. L. E. Shelford, one of the hon. secretaries, read the 8th annual report. In no previous year had more care been taken in the investigation of cases of applicants for relief or in the granting of relief. The Committee had decided to restrict the power in the latter case as exercised by the visitors, so as to avoid the dangers attaching to the 'dole system'; and the result of such restriction had been found to be satisfactory. The Committee owed thanks to the subscribers, especially to those gentlemen who had acted as visitors to the homes of the poor, for their attention to the work, and also for the readiness with which they had accepted the restrictions upon their liberality which had been found from time to time necessary. The number of tramps applying for help declined every year. The number last year on the books was 115. A new class of cases had been brought before the attention of the Committee. The divisional committee of the School Board had found that one of the chief obstacles to education was the want of clothing for destitute children; and they had referred to the Charity Organisation Society for help in the matter, and this was being dealt with. The Committee finally pleaded for increased and continued subscriptions.

Mr. Beedell, treasurer, having presented the finance statement,

The Rev. T. H. Woodroffe moved the adoption of the report and financial statement, which was seconded and carried.

Mr. W. Godfrey proposed the thanks of the meeting to the officers, especially the visitors, for their services, and spoke of the arduous labours they had performed, for which they were entitled to the warmest acknowledgments.

The Chairman bore testimony to the vast labour and care they had bestowed in investigating the cases.

The resolution was carried.

The Rev. W. H. Langhorne moved the appointment of the officers for the ensuing year, paying an especial tribute of praise to the secretaries—the Rev. L. E. Shelford and Mr. Charles Kemp—for the interest they had evinced in the work of the Society and the amount of work performed, notwithstanding the many calls upon their time.

Mr. B. S. Olding seconded. Referring to the allusion in the Report to the School Board, he was the acting chairman of the divisional committee of the School Board for this district, and he assured them the assistance the Society gave in the direction indicated would certainly be of very great value. They had as many as sixty or seventy cases of the kind to deal with on an evening; and amongst that number there were many cases of deep distress. He endeavoured to deal with them as far as possible individually; still it was found they were liable to very great imposition, and they (the School Board Committee) had not the means of ascertaining with accuracy the exact condition of the applicants for assistance, certainly not the same means that the Charity Organisation Society possessed; so that they were 'taken in' considerably, and the committee of the School Board had to give it up. This led to a supposition on the part of many parents who pleaded tales of extreme poverty before the School Board Committee that they could get relief in that way without a proper check upon their applications. He hoped, however, they would be able, out of their own resources

as well as out of Mr. Peek's munificent gift, to deal with the cases that came before them.

The resolution was carried, and votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Officers of the Society brought the proceedings to a close.

POPULAR.—*Co-operation with Guardians.*—At the fortnightly meeting of the Poplar Board of Guardians, on the 19th inst., the Clerk, says the *Metropolitan*, reported the receipt of a letter from the Charity Organisation Society, intimating that the case of a woman requiring funds to enable her to emigrate, which was referred to them by the Board, had received attention. The Clerk added that he had since been informed that the woman had left England. Mr. Marsh said that the relieving officer had informed him that the assistance rendered by the Charity Organisation Society had enabled him to get the woman off. The Chairman observed that the reference of the case to the Society had been attended with very satisfactory results.

## BRIGHTON AND HOVE CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Charity Organisation Society for Brighton, Hove, and Preston was held on the 22nd ult. in the Royal Pavilion. His Worship the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Abbey) presided, and there were present, amongst others, the ex-Mayor (Mr. Alderman Bridgen, J.P.), the Rev. R. P. Hooper, M.A., and the Rev. Dr. Hamilton (Vice-Presidents), the Rev. J. H. A. Gibson, Sir Cordy Burrows, J.P., Col. Baines (Chairman of the Hove Commissioners), Col. Mellor, Capt. Kirby, Mr. Councillor Tankard, and Mr. R. Patching (Chairman of the Board of Guardians).

The Mayor explained that, in virtue of his office as Mayor of Brighton, he had been requested to preside on this occasion, and he complied with very much pleasure, having been a member of the Society since its formation, and having watched with considerable interest its progress from that time till this. He could not do better than read a very succinct account of the Society which had been placed in his hands. It was as follows:

This Society was established about four years ago as a Mendicity Society, and afterwards affiliated to the Charity Organisation Society in London. As a Mendicity Society it has done a great deal of good in clearing the streets of importunate beggars, to the great relief of visitors and residents. But this is not the principal work of the Society, which aims at organising the various charities of the town, that they may act in friendly union, giving and receiving information for the benefit of each and all, instead of conducting their affairs as independent bodies, as if they had no interest in each others' proceedings. The Charity Organisation Society offers itself as a medium of intercommunication, and offers its services in the investigation of all doubtful cases in which application for relief is made either to public institutions or private persons. The good effected by the Society in this direction has been very considerable, and it would have been much more considerable if those who indulge in indiscriminate charity had sent to the office for information before they parted with their money. Another department of the Society's operations is relief. Every wayfarer passing through the town may have on application a pound of bread. To guard against abuse, the bread must be eaten in the office and not carried away. Upwards of 2,600 have been thus treated during the year, and doubtless the diminution of street beggars may be attributed to a great extent to this fact. But this is not the only relief afforded by the Society. It should be understood, however, that the Society is not primarily a relief society. Its great duty is inquiry, that others—whether institutions or individuals—may give to the deserving. Hence its principal expenditure in maintaining the machinery for investigation. It does, however, give, and give effectually, in cases that come within its sphere of operations. It does not give when other sources of relief are available—as the Guardians, charitable institutions, or private persons; but when none of these can be brought to bear upon the case—when the Guardians cannot and dare not help, when institutions and private persons cannot be applied to—the Society steps in and grants relief, at any rate, till some other or more permanent relief can be found. And not only does it give itself, but by its investigations it enables the charitable to give, by assuring them of the respectability of the poor applicants who solicit them. The Society likewise undertakes the application of alms to deserving persons, according to the wishes of the donors, and in this way a considerable amount of good has been done during the year.

In concluding, he stated that he had a strong conviction in his own mind that this Society was doing a great amount of good, and he hoped its operations would be extended. (Applause.) Other gentlemen would speak as to the leading features and operations of the Society more fully.

The Secretary read the following report:—

The Council of the Charity Organisation Society, in presenting its fourth Annual Report, is happy in being able to state that the Society continues to prosper, that there has been no diminution of the support hitherto afforded, and that influential names have been added to the list of members of the Council. In the Report of last year allusion was made to the amount of negative resistance which had been offered to this as well as to other branches of the Charity Organisation Society in their efforts to promote a better administration of local charities. It is not considered that more opposition to this part of the Society's programme has been offered in Brighton than elsewhere, and time alone can gradually bring about changes which cannot but meet with resistance in quarters where many conflicting interests are involved. At the same time it may be confidently asserted that your Society is gradually acquiring the support of a growing public opinion on these matters. The increasing attention given by politicians of all shades of opinion to the questions of pauperism and vagrancy, and the administration of the laws affecting them, has been largely influenced by the action of the Parent Society of London, and in this county by your Local Society. A recognised system and societies for the suppression of mendicity have within the last year been adopted by the two divisions of the county. The decrease in the number of vagrants is very observable. There is a decrease in the number applying at the Society's office of 672. A large decrease is reported from the Brighton workhouse, and many unions in the county bear witness to the same fact. Your Society has worked in cordial co-operation with the Brighton Board of Guardians since its commencement, and its influence is steadily extending. The thanks of the Society are due to the Press for the publicity and countenance it has given to its proceedings and principles. The classified list of cases appended to this report will show the working of the Society during the past year. There is a decrease of 12 in the total number of cases investigated, though there is a considerable increase in the number referred to the Society by the clergy of the town and by local and other societies. An important step has been taken in the removal of the offices of the Society from Church Street to Edward Street. This was rendered absolutely necessary by the increasing amount of business transacted.



A list of the cases dealt with by the Society during the past year showed a total of 3,118, including 2,645 wayfarers.

Sir Cordy Burrows moved that the report and balance sheet should be received and adopted. The report was, he thought, a most valuable one. As a public man, moving about the town, he was quite certain that there had never been established in the town an institution that has done so much good in so short a time as that had done. Everyone must have noticed a great diminution of the number of vagrants in the town. It was a source of pleasure to know that the Society worked so harmoniously with the Board of Guardians. That body dispensed the legal charity of the town, and if they had anything to be proud of in the town, it was the admirable way in which the Poor Law is administered. The report was an admirable one, showing as it did that in four years 12,000 cases had been investigated by the Society. The number of people relieved and the diminution of vagrants recommended the institution to the notice of the public and their support. He hoped it would continue in its work, and in the end rid the town of these vagrants. He did not like to speak unkindly of the blind, but he thought the authorities ought to move those blind people from the streets. They were there in all weathers, and it was pitiable to see them. They would be far better off in the workhouse. (Applause.)

Mr. A. Creak with pleasure seconded the proposition, cordially endorsing the remark that there was not a society which, with such slender means, had, in so short a time, effected so much good, and which, in combination with other societies, was likely to work such a national benefit and revolution. The condition of the country as regarded pauperism and beggary was very serious—in 1873, with unexampled prosperity, nearly 800,000 persons, in a population of 22,000,000, were kept out of the poor rates, at a cost of close upon £8,000,000—and he rejoiced to observe that such a society as this was earnestly and effectively working towards the reduction of mendicity in Brighton.

Mr. Douglas Fox was the next speaker. He said it was a great thing to make the community understand that this was not a harsh or cruel Society, that it was not one that wanted simply to stamp out the pestilence existing in society in the form of vagrancy. They did certainly want to stamp it out, but at the same time they wanted to do good to the vagrants themselves. Vagrancy was in a great many cases hereditary. If they could sweep off the parents and make them work for their living and become useful members of society, there would be a chance for the children, and good would be done all round. He had been connected with the Association from its formation, and could say, having looked into it carefully, that it was working fruitfully, and if persevered in it would be a great blessing to society and to the vagrants themselves.

Dr. Hamilton moved a resolution recommending the public to support the Association.

Colonel Baines seconded the resolution, and stated that when deserving cases came before the Committee they did not shirk their duty in relieving them.

The Ex-Mayor said he had had a practical acquaintance with the Association's work, and could speak of its efficiency and utility. He knew that great care and attention were always devoted to the consideration of all the cases, and could recommend the Association to the earnest, warm, and energetic support of all. There had been a wonderful diminution in the class of people who once were so frequently to be met with in the principal streets, and who caused a great nuisance by their importunities.

The resolution was then put and carried, and votes of thanks to the officers of the Society, the newspaper proprietors, and the Chairman, moved by Mr. Deverell, Mr. G. Heathcote, and Mr. G. I. Leon, brought the meeting to a close.

#### MENDICITY SOCIETY FOR HEREFORDSHIRE.

Mr. Meysey Clive writes as follows to the *Hereford Times*:—Sir, from a return made to the last Herefordshire Quarter Sessions, it appeared that the number of vagrants relieved as casuals in the eight unions of the county was 7,500 from June 1874 to June 1875, and that 60 vagrants were committed under the Vagrancy Act in the same period, both numbers being an increase on those of the previous twelve months. These numbers showed clearly the necessity that steps should be taken to deal with the subject of Vagrancy in the county, and with this view a Committee was appointed, at which the Mayors of Hereford and Leominster, the Chairmen of Boards of Guardians and of Petty Sessions were invited to attend.

The resolutions to which this Committee agreed have been sent to you, and, with your permission, I will endeavour to explain the importance of the subject, in the hope that all persons interested in it will attend at a general meeting at the Shirehall, Hereford, on the 4th of December, at 2 p.m., and assist in the formation of a Mendicity Society on a sound and useful basis.

It is clear that a voluntary society of this kind can only be effective if it has the general and hearty support of the public; for the chief principle of the Society, as it exists in other counties, is that the public should, instead of money, give to beggars tickets which can be exchanged for bread at the nearest baker's shop.

By this means the honest wayfarer passing through the country can obtain the relief which he requires; while the professional tramp finds it not worth his while to pursue his avocation when he cannot obtain more than the food necessary for his sustenance.

The mode of working of the Society will be explained fully at the general meeting. I will only say here that Local Committees have to be appointed in each union district, whose duties are to collect subscriptions not over 10s. nor less than 2s. 6d., to distribute the Society's tickets, and to appoint the shops in their districts where those tickets may be exchanged for bread. These places should not be more than five miles apart. A central Committee for the whole county meets as occasion requires. The funds are vested in an honorary treasurer, and the bulk of the business is done by an honorary secretary.

In Dorsetshire, where a similar Society has been eminently successful, the expenses for the first year were £100, and these have been gradually reduced to £50. During the five years in which that Society has been in existence the number of casuals relieved in the unions has been reduced by 76 per cent., and it is not necessary to do more than call attention to the relief which this must have been to the poor-rates, and to society generally. I do not anticipate such favourable results in Herefordshire, and perhaps with us this reduction would not be so strong an evidence of the usefulness of the Society as it is in Dorsetshire, on account of the number of hop-pickers who annually pass through Herefordshire and swell the number of casuals. These would derive direct benefit from the Society's bread ticket. As regards professional tramps, however, there is the same ground as in Dorsetshire for hoping that their number will be diminished if the Society is successfully established.

It is hardly necessary to dwell on the well-known fact that a professional tramp generally spends in drink the money which he gets by begging, that he is a burden and nuisance to society, and by his successful career induces many who would otherwise be numbered among the useful working population of the country to follow his example.

I trust, therefore, that I may enlist your sympathy in this cause, and that by publishing this letter you will let the fact of the general meeting on the 4th of December be widely known, and I hope cause it to be well attended.

A BRIGHTON IMPOSTOR.—We learn from the Brighton Society that a man who gave the name of James Smith, and who had lost his right hand and right leg, has lately resided at Brighton, where he has been collecting money for the alleged purpose of obtaining a wooden leg. He stated that he had been, under the name of Jacob Smith, in the 2nd Bengal Fusiliers now called the 104th Regiment; that he lost his hand in the Indian mutiny; that his leg was amputated at King's College Hospital; and that he was invalided in 1859 with a pension of 6d. a day. It was found on inquiry that he had been in Brighton six weeks instead of one week, as he stated; that at one of his lodgings he persuaded the landlady to board and lodge him and to supply him with pocket money, under the pretence that he had a pension of 2s. 9d. per day from the 9th Lancers, and that on the day on which he said his pension was due he went away; also that he borrowed money from the landlord of a public-house with whom he had deposited two diamonds and a ruby, which he represented to be worth £80, but which proved to be worthless. It was ascertained that he had ordered a wooden leg from a tradesman in the town, but had collected more than double its cost. Information of his proceedings having been given to the Society, the agent called at his lodgings to make inquiries: this so alarmed him that he left the house and has not since been seen at Brighton. The case of a man named Jacob Smith, who had also lost a leg and an arm, and who is probably identical with the above-mentioned impostor, was brought before the notice of the Whitechapel Committee in November 1874. It was discovered that he had been for a long time imposing on the public under various names, that he was known to the Surgical Aid Society, who had once supplied him with a wooden leg, and also to the Jewish Board of Guardians and the Jews' Synagogue.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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# THE Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 157.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 8, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. S. Loch, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: The Earl of Lichfield (in the chair); F. J. S. Edgcombe, Esq., *Kensington Committee*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., Major Prendergast, Major Sanford, *St. George's*; F. C. Mills, Esq., *Westminster (St. James's and St. Anne's)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marglebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., *Hampstead*; H. Matthews, Esq., *Islington*; Hon. E. F. Kenyon, *St. Giles's*; H. H. Hill, Esq., *Strand*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, Rev. S. A. Barnett, *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., E. Peters, Esq., *Stepney*; Rev. W. H. Langhorne, *Mile End Old Town*; Ralph Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; Allen D. Graham, Esq., *St. Saviour's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Heathcote Long, Esq., Lambeth*; J. H. Ward, Esq., *Battersea*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; W. Day, Esq., *Sydenham*; A. H. Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., Stephen Fuller, Esq., T. J. Phillips-Jodrell, Esq., W. Wightman Wood, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 32. C. S. Loch, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

### THE GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL.

A letter was read from the Hon. R. Capel, Hon. Sec. of the Great Northern Hospital, describing the system adopted at the hospital for checking misuse of out-patient relief:—

'Perhaps it is the only Hospital,' wrote Mr. Capel, 'that has upon its staff an officer whose sole duty it is to register the out-patients, to inquire into their circumstances, and to report monthly to the Executive Committee. This inquiry is made as inoffensively as possible, and I am assured by him that he is almost invariably well received, and is often asked to come in and sit down.'

'Personally I am disposed to think that a Provident Dispensary should be part and parcel of every hospital. I believe that a great number who now come for gratuitous relief would, if they could rely upon having the medical advice of the staff attached to such hospitals, be quite ready to pay the fees which are paid at Provident Dispensaries; but then arises the question, whether any should be attended to without payment? I would not shut the door of gratuitous relief, nor draw too hard-and-fast a line; but I would have a register, to prevent those in really good circumstances from becoming members of such Provident Dispensaries, and, on the other

hand, to admit those a shade above the pauper class to relief without payment. I believe such a system would work well, though, like all changes, it might provoke opposition. It is doubtful, perhaps, whether our hospital has benefited by the system in a pecuniary point of view, but it is satisfactory to myself at least to know that a discriminating element has been introduced in the selection of the out-patients.'

Mr. Bosanquet said that it was satisfactory to find that the Great Northern Hospital had a Registrar. Mr. Fairlie Clarke had pointed out, in an article in *Macmillan* some years ago, that every hospital ought to have such an officer. It was essential that there should be some person at the hospitals competent to judge what inquiries it was necessary to make, and how different applicants should be dealt with.

The Secretary reported that the Hon. H. R. Scott had been elected a representative of the Mile End Committee, *vice* Mr. A. C. Mitchell.

### QUESTIONS.

Mr. Bosanquet stated, in reply to a question by Mr. Day, that the Finance Subcommittee had decided that, as there was no money available in the District Committee Aid Fund, the immediate wants of District Committees should be met by loans from the General Fund to that Fund. They anticipated that, taking the probable claims on the General and District Committee Aid Funds together, there would be a deficit of more than £100 at the end of the year, unless the receipts during the current month were larger than they were in the corresponding month last year.

He referred to a question put last week with reference to a man of the name of Bailey, who had represented himself at the Lambeth Police Court as a man of good character, prevented by poverty from sending his child to school. The Clerk to the Divisional Committee of the School Board had since explained that he was thoroughly undeserving, which accounted for his not having sent him to the Organisation Committee. It had been the almost invariable experience of the Society that inquiries into cases of reported hardship disclosed material facts which quite changed their aspect. This was especially true of inquests on deaths reported to be from starvation.

### REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending November 27 the receipts had been £77. 18s. 6d. for the General Fund, and £37 for the District Committee Aid Fund; and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £53. 4s. 6d. and £49. 18s. 6d. respectively, the latter sum not including an advance of £35 to be made from the General Fund.

### ADDITIONAL MEMBER.

Mr. J. R. Hollond having moved, and Lord Lichfield having seconded, the election of Mr. Bosanquet as an additional member of Council, with an expression of regret at the Council having lost his services as Secretary, the motion was unanimously agreed to.



Mr. Bosanquet thanked the Council for the compliment paid to him, and hoped that though he would probably only be able to be present at one more meeting, he would be able to render his successor some assistance through the post.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following recommendations of the Administrative Committee were adopted:—

1. That while District Committees should certainly not refuse to investigate the cases of persons applying to them, whose distress is alleged to have been brought on by their having been defrauded by benefit societies, inquiry into the general bona fides of the societies themselves (unless they have issued charitable appeals) should not be instituted, but the investigation should be limited to the particular transactions of such societies with the individual applicant.

2. When District Committees have come to the conclusion, from their own investigation, that a clear case of fraud on the part of any society has been made out, they are strongly urged not to embark in any legal proceedings in reference to it without laying the case before the Administrative Committee.

Mr. J. R. Hollond said that, except in individual cases, and when actual distress was a consequence of the fraud, it was not advisable that District Committees should undertake investigation. Previous experience showed the expediency of submitting cases of suspected fraud to the Administrative Committee before taking action.

Grants of £30 and £35 were made to the St. Olave's and the Mile End Committees.

REPORT OF VISITS TO OFFICES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Some discussion took place as to the best mode of considering the reports which were brought up last week and sent out to members.

It was ultimately resolved that the discussion should be postponed till Monday, January 17, that District Committees might have time to consider the recommendations made.

GRANTS TO POOR DISTRICTS.

Mr. Day moved—

That the continuous application to the Council of this Society for grants, by some of the District Committees, is opposed to the principles of self-support; that it arises more from want of better organisation than from poverty; that a house-to-house collection and free distribution of Charity Organisation Society's Tickets, properly carried out, should enable each District soon to become self-supporting.

He referred to the reports of the Islington and the East End Committees. One officer, combining the duties of agent and collector, ought to be able, he thought, to do the work of two or more of the East End Districts, as they did not cover a large area. Grants from the Council had a tendency to make economy and a systematic collection secondary considerations.

Mr. Langhorne and other members pointed out that the areas of some of the East London Committees were small, but the populations were large. Several of the Committees, too, had not yet had time to make themselves known in their districts

Mr. Matthews said that in Islington both area and population were large, and much time was spent in obtaining information for other Committees.

Mr. Loch stated that the Islington Committee had dealt with 879 cases in the year ending September 30, 1875, as compared with 486 cases the year before. There had been delay in the collection, owing to changes of staff; but collectors were now going from house to house in the evening, and he fully expected that in a short time the Committee would be self-supporting.

After some further discussion Mr. Day consented to withdraw his motion, it being probable that an opportunity for considering the question more fully would arise.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending December 4, 1875:—*Donations*: E. L. Ames, Esq., £5; B. Bosanquet, Esq., £15; T. F. Marson, Esq., £10. 10s.; R. W. Melvil, Esq., £10; H. B. Millmay, Esq., £25; Mrs. Reiss, £10; T. Godolphin Rooper, Esq., £5; Rev.

J. P. Tomlinsen, £1; Sir W. E. Welby, Bart., M.P., £5. *Annual*: A. C. Barclay, Esq., M.P., £10; B. Bosanquet, Esq., £5; F. A. Bosanquet, Esq., £1. 1s.; H. R. Droop, Esq., £3. 3s.; Lady de Rothschild, £5; Theodore Fry, Esq., £1. 1s.; F. Sherwood, Esq., £1. 1s.; H. B. Slade, Esq., £2. 2s.; Madame Valbry, £1. 1s.; G. Weston, Esq., £2. 2s.; W. Wightman Wood, Esq., £1. 1s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Sir W. E. Welby, Bart., M.P., £5; W. Wightman Wood, Esq., £2. 2s.

The following business stands for Monday, December 13:—  
To consider recommendations of the Administrative Committee:—

1. That a grant of £35 be made to the Holborn Committee.
2. That a grant of £30 be made to the St. Saviour's Committee.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, DE- CEMBER 4, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as				Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Authorities	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	8	4	7	19	..	4	2	6	2	..	3	..	5	30	13	3	5
Fulham .....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	4	5	4	3	5
Paddington .....	1	1	3	5	..	6	..	6	3	..	3	3	9	20	16	4	..
Chelsea .....	1	..	..	1	..	3	..	3	2	..	..	..	2	6	10	4	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	1	..	2	3	1	2	2	5	2	2	..	..	4	25	12	9	..
Westminster do.	3	2	2	7	1	..	2	3	1	1	1	..	3		5	2	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	8	12
St. Marylebone .....	6	3	3	12	2	13	4	19	2	2	..	1	5	36	11	8	..
Hampstead .....	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	5	..	2	4
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	1	..	..	1	..	5	..	5	..	1	..	..	1	7	4	..	..
South St. Pancras ....	3	4	11	18	..	7	4	11	1	..	..	..	1	30	6	..	..
Islington .....	3	3	1	7	..	8	..	8	3	..	..	..	3	18	15	8	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	1	1	..	4	..	4	..	..	1	1	1	6	2	6	..
Strand .....	..	..	..	..	7	3	10	..	..	2	..	..	2	12	5	4	..
Holborn .....	..	2	2	4	7	..	7	..	1	..	..	1	1	10	2	19	..
City .....	1	2	3	6	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	5	3	17	..
Shoreditch .....	1	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	2	..	..	3	8	2	12	..
Bethnal Green .....	2	..	4	6	1	1	1	1	3	..	2	5	5	12	2	5	..
Whitechapel .....	1	3	5	9	3	3	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	12	6	6	..
St. George's-in-the-East	2	1	1	4	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	6	6	3	..
Stepney .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	7	2	..
Mile End Old Town ..	..	4	4	8	1	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	3	8	..	2	..
Poplar .....	2	..	2	4	1	1	1	1	3	1	..	..	4	9	..	4	..
St. Saviour's .....	5	1	6	12	5	5	5	5	2	..	2	4	4	21	12	7	..
Newington .....	1	..	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	..	1	3	3	8	1	3	..
St. Olave's .....	5	1	4	10	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	12	..	..	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	1	2	1	4	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	2	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	3	1	7
Battersea .....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	3	4	1	2	..
Clapham .....	..	1	1	2	..	1	2	3	1	..	..	1	1	6	5	1	16
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	1	..	..	1	3	4	..	7	1	..	..	..	1	12	..	1	..
Peckham .....	..	2	2	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..		..	2	..
Greenwich .....	..	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	6	4	1	13
Deptford .....	1	..	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	3	3	1	7
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	6
Lewisham .....	..	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	..	19
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	8
Total .....	52	30	74	156	8	95	23	126	43	16	10	15	84	366	180	160	114

DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

KENSINGTON.—*Impostor*.—A person calling himself William Mackinlay called recently on Mrs. Mackinlay, 7 Earl's Terrace, representing himself to be a relation of the family, said he had had his pocket picked at Euston Square Station, and asked for some money. Mrs. Mackinlay gave him £5, thinking he might belong to a branch of her family abroad. Said he had lately come from Bombay, and should write for a remittance from Philadelphia, and would return the £5 by P.O. Order in three weeks' time. Said he was staying at the Clarendon Hotel, City Road. Mrs. M. has ascertained that he is not the person he represents himself to be. Is about 60 years old, rather tall and grey, with rather a red face, and red patch on one side of forehead; rather shabby, believed to have a brown coat.

BATTERSEA.—*Inundation Case*.—It was stated in the Police Report of the *Times* of December 1st, that a working man had applied to the Magistrate at the Wandsworth Police Court for his assistance. He said he had been residing in Ford Place, Wandsworth, and was washed out by the late



floods, his property being destroyed. Mr. Bridge referred him to the Charity Organisation Society, as the money at the disposal of the Court had been sent to it. The applicant said he had applied, but the Society would not assist him because he had removed to High Street, Battersea. We are informed that the man in question had never been refused assistance. Delay was caused by his removal, and by his not having left his address at his last place of abode. He has received assistance from the Battersea Committee.

#### CONFERENCE AT CROYDON.

After the annual meeting of the Croydon Charitable Society, on Friday, Nov. 26, a Conference was held on the subject of almsgiving. Space only allows us to give extracts from the full report which appears in the *Croydon Advertiser* of last Saturday.

The Rev. Canon Hodgson, who presided, opened the Conference by pointing out that true charity contemplated the best interests of the distressed. You see parents, he continued, with children around them. Some indulge their children, fall in with their every whim—spoil their children. Others restrain them, do not humour them, but teach them to submit to hear 'No' said to their wishes. Both classes of parents, though bringing up their children on different principles, love them: these having regard to their pleasure, those to their profit. There is a deep, wide-spread feeling of charity throughout the country, but it is often misguided, ill-directed, obeys impulse, yields to importunity, and does more harm than good. What is the result of giving alms to beggars? You maintain an army of idle men and women—turn those who should be working bees into drones, and fly in the face of the Scriptural rule, that if a man will not work neither shall he eat. There are many persons who work and receive good wages during the summer months, and when the winter comes are in distress. Improvident and reckless they are, because they learn that they can rely upon alms. Withhold your alms, and you encourage saving habits, and so consult the best interests of your poorer neighbours. But the charitable man says, 'You cut me off from giving to the beggar and the poor around me. I have charitable feeling in me which I will not and cannot repress; what am I to do?' The Charity Organisation Society answers the question. 'Refer every case to me. I will inquire into the merits of it by means mechanically devised for the very purpose, and I will report the result to you.' I trust that this Conference will be successful in impressing upon the public mind that there is a charity which is no charity, that there is all the difference in the world between discriminate and indiscriminate almsgiving, and whilst the one is a blessing the other is the bane of the community.

Dr. Coles said that the resolution he had to propose for their consideration was, although short, yet a somewhat comprehensive one. It was—'That in the opinion of this Conference, alms wrongly bestowed encourage pauperism and fraud.' The principle herein contained must, he thought, commend itself to them all; in fact, some of the audience would wonder why they were taken from their homes that cold night to adopt such a truism by a formal resolution; yet he ventured to say there was scarcely a person in that room who had not many times found it difficult to put that principle into practice. It was no easy matter when, during a pelting-storm or in the cold north-east wind, you saw a haggard-looking woman, with a baby in her arms, and two or three ragged children hanging to her dress, singing some plaintive ditty; or, when you were stopped in the less frequented roads by some wretched-looking beggar, who assured you he had not tasted food for many hours, and that he had a wife and family in the same state—it was no easy task, he said, under such circumstances, to refuse relief. Yet he had no hesitation in stating that they would not be doing their duty to the public if they gave money to such beggars—nay, he would go even farther, and say they were doing a positive unkindness by giving it them: for these poor children must frequently suffer much from being exposed to the inclemency of the weather; and he should be very glad indeed to hear from anyone present that there was some law to prevent their being so exposed. By the laws of this country, everyone could have a home; and if, from misfortune or improvidence, or from preferring a roving life, these people had not provided a home for themselves, the law offered them the union house; and it would be a great blessing to the poor children if they were forced to become inmates; for, although the parents would be compelled to work—and rightly so—yet the children would be well housed, well fed, and educated in such a manner as would place them in a position to become decent members of society. Whereas, if they relieved these people by giving alms, the children are brought up in ignorance, immorality, and sin. Therefore, if it were only for the sake of the children of beggars, the Charitable Society asked for their kind and firm co-operation. It was true there might be now and then a case of real distress—such as labourers travelling in search of work. But give all street beggars one of the Society's relief tickets; they would for certain receive a meal, their case be inquired into, and further assistance given, if necessary; though, in the majority of cases, they would decline the offered ticket, or throw it

away—a pretty certain sign that they were not in so wretched a condition as represented. With regard to the resident poor, he observed the Society did not wish or advise them to adopt a hard and fast line. Though here the principle of the resolution held good, he urged them to visit these people at their homes, to make themselves acquainted with their means, their wants and requirements; but, before giving relief in money, to place themselves in communication with the agent of the Charitable Society. For the last four or five years a book had been kept at the office, in which were entered the names of the resident poor who applied for relief, and it had been found that many of the same families came year after year, not usually amongst those earning the lowest wages, but those earning good wages when at work, yet making no provision for the future, simply because they had been supported by charity in past winters, and expected to be in future, bringing up their children in the same improvident habits.

Mr. J. J. Marshall had much pleasure in seconding the resolution just proposed, viz., 'That all alms wrongly bestowed encourage pauperism and fraud.' Archbishop Whately's observation on this subject was worth recalling. 'Forty thousand pounds,' said he, 'have I spent on charity since I came to this diocese, but I thank God I have never given one penny to a street beggar.' Mr. Marshall feared that very few carried out the maxim so strictly, for those street and house-to-house beggars were so specious, and (disliking inquiry) always pleaded emergency so plausibly, that one was often tempted to give them money, which had far better been thrown into the sea, where it would not encourage drunkenness and idleness.

The Rev. R. R. Suffield moved the second resolution, 'That in the opinion of this Conference it is better, when possible, to help indirectly, by helping the needy to help themselves, than by helping directly, which must tend to pauperise.' Mr. Suffield, in the course of his excellent speech, urged that a branch of the National Penny Bank should be established in Croydon, under the auspices of the Charitable Society. He adverted to some of the advantages it possesses, i.e., interest of 3 per cent., power of purchasing Consols to the amount of 16s. 8d. or more, whereby a young boy or girl at school can hold stock at an interest of the same rate as the largest holder. The capital, £15,000, deposits held by the Bank of England and invested in Government securities. He pointed out that whereas the Post Office Savings Bank does not receive parts of a shilling, the National Penny Bank has no limitations, and pays a larger interest. He hoped that, if the Charitable Society did not take up this public boon, it would attract the favourable notice of gentlemen present.

The Rev. H. Glover, in seconding the resolution, observed that he was to be succeeded by Mr. Alsager Hill, a gentleman whose practical acquaintance with charity organisation was perhaps greater than that of any other gentleman in the room. When appointed the first Secretary of the Society, he remembered having an interview with Mr. Hill, at his office in London, and a very valuable interview it was, as it enabled him to carry on the Society's work with a better knowledge of its difficulties, and the best way of overcoming them.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, a Vice-Chairman of the Charity Organisation Society of London, supported the resolution. He said that though he did not attend the meetings as an official representative of the Society in London, he had been connected with it from the first, and as its work went on, was more and more convinced of the principles upon which it was founded. The idea of introducing a spirit of organisation in works of charity had been resented in some quarters, but he could not see why an element which had been admitted in all other departments of human labour should not also be recognised in the highest of all labours—that of love to our fellow-creatures. He was aware that a suburban district like Croydon differed much from the more crowded quarters of the metropolis, but perhaps the problem, though different, was not less difficult than in the town. He hoped the Society, in addition to enlisting the ladies and gentlemen whom he saw before him, would make its influence felt amongst, and secure the co-operation of, the industrial classes, many members of which could give good aid to the Society.

The Rev. W. Wilks then rose to move, 'That in the opinion of this Conference, when so vast a sum is annually paid out in poor rates, it is inexpedient (except in special cases) to supplement parish relief.' I suppose that hardly a day passes but what you are accosted, either in the street or at your own house door, by some poor creature begging your kindly charity, and you don't know how to refuse; indeed some persons consider it a bounden duty to give to everyone that asketh, without any further proof that they deserve it than their own assertion, or that they really need it than their own miserable appearance. I remember once being out walking with a friend who held this view, and being accosted by a woman whose deplorable appearance was well calculated to grieve any Christian heart; well, my friend gave her money, and we passed on. But happening to look round a minute afterwards, I saw her going into a public-house. I told my friend, who was a man of very decided and determined character. He at once ran back, rushed into the public-house, and was just in time to snatch the sixpence out of the trembling shaking hand, which was tendering it in exchange for gin. Now when such people meet you or come to your house, they tell you a pitiful tale, and back it up



with the assertion 'that they must starve if you don't help them,' and your heart melts with pity, and I should be sorry for you if it didn't. But wait a moment. Do not act on impulse without thinking. Wait and consider whether it would not be far wiser, and also—as anyone who knows anything of beggars would tell you—far more economical in the long run, to promise 10s. or £1, if, on inquiry, the case prove good, than to rid yourself of all feeling and responsibility in the matter by putting your hand into your pocket for the conventional 1d., 6d., or 1s., as the case may be. This Society asks you to wait and refer the case for inquiry to be made. A day is generally enough to prove the genuineness or imposition, whichever it may be. But you say: 'Yes, but what are the poor creatures to do that day? A day may be long enough to prove or disprove, and also it is long enough to almost starve.' Now, let me point out that if you give money, little though it may be, you at once destroy all good that comes of inquiry, because the applicant having in all probability deceived you, passes from your knowledge and control, and re-commences taking in others in the same way. But still you say—'But even so the poor creatures must not starve.' Well, now we ask you to put away all fear of starvation. The people who starve—of whom, alas, there are 250 known cases per annum, besides the unknown—are sensitive people who won't beg, but prefer starving to begging. Put aside, then, the idea of starvation, and take up the idea, Poor Law. I am not myself an ardent admirer of the Poor Law, considering it to be based on entirely wrong principles, yet, as long as it exists and we pay £8,000,000 a year to it, it is absurd not to use it. We have a Poor Law, a Union House, a Board of Guardians, and relieving officers, whose sole duty it is to look after the poor; and whether you consider it, as some do, a glory or not, yet a fact it remains that no man, woman, or child need starve in England. All destitute persons—be they good, bad, or indifferent, it makes not the smallest difference—all destitute persons are by law entitled to relief, and in all cases of urgency, the relieving officer is bound by law to administer food without waiting the Guardians' sanction.

The Rev. H. C. Watson seconded the motion, and said, besides those peculiarly special cases which must always from time to time arise, there are certain regular cases which the Society regarded as special in the sense of its being fitting in them to supplement parish relief. The cases of widows and highly respectable persons to whom the Guardians themselves feel they cannot by law allow really sufficient relief afford a grand opportunity for co-operation with the Poor Law. But the greatest care must be taken in using it; for, at the outset, we are met with the fact that nothing short of a pension or weekly allowance will meet the case. It is seldom, if ever, wise for ordinary subscription charities to give pensions; but private persons are sometimes glad to give such assistance to individual cases when brought to their notice. District visiting societies, too, are often willing to make a regular allowance to a small number of cases; and, as they necessarily come in contact with chronic cases, it is well they should assist them in this way rather than by habitual but uncertain doles. There are also several things which the Guardians cannot legally give—such as redeeming pawned goods, purchasing tools, bedding, and clothes, paying the cost of conveyance from one place to another, and paying for rent or for lodging. So that, in all these matters, our Society is most willing to help with the Guardians; but, as Mr. Goschen himself, when President of the Poor Law Board, said, 'We should not give such articles as the Guardians themselves are legally bound to supply.'

Mr. F. M. Coldwells moved—'That the Croydon Charitable Society is worthy of the confidence and support of this Conference.' As to individuals giving time enough to inquire into cases, it was quite out of the question. He gave an amusing account of his attempts in that way by last winter giving two Italian boys into custody; and, although aided by magistrates and police, the lying and shuffling were too much for him. He had to give up in despair, and therefore could cordially move the resolution.

Mr. H. J. Close seconded the motion. He said that what he had heard that evening had given him very great pleasure indeed; for, having been a Guardian of the parish of Croydon for many years, he entirely agreed that the amount of imposture practised by beggars was immense, and it was practically impossible for a private person to discover the truth from the false. The Board of Guardians was the rightful protector of the destitute, and until inquiry could be properly made, he thought it was, on all hands, the best to leave things to them. Alms before inquiry were certainly productive of little but harm. He was glad, therefore, as a Guardian of the poor, to record the confidence he had in the principles of this Society.

Mr. Edridge, J.P., moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, and also to Mr. Alsager Hill and others, for the admirable speeches they had made, and

This was carried by acclamation, and the meeting broke up.

**MENDICITY SOCIETY FOR HEREFORDSHIRE.**—At a meeting of the leading gentlemen of the county, on the 4th inst., under the presidency of Sir Herbert Croft, Bart., it was unanimously resolved to establish a charitable body in Herefordshire for the relief of tramps, on the same principle as the Dorsetshire Mendicity Society.

**THE ORGANISATION OF CHARITY AT SOUTHAMPTON.**—A very important Conference, says the *Times*, was held at the Audit House, Southampton, on Saturday afternoon, the Mayor (Mr. E. Jones) in the chair, at which were present over sixty of the leading heads of charities in the town, and most of the ministers of all denominations, for the purpose of considering the expediency of forming a Charity Organisation Society in the town. Dr. R. Waudby Griffin described the heavy state of pauperism in Southampton and the causes which had led to it, among which were—first, the ignorance of the majority of the ever-changing Guardians of the commonest principles on which the Poor Law was founded, to relieve only destitution, and the ready way in which they had allowed what was intended by the Poor Law for exceptional cases to become the rule; secondly, the utter impossibility of relieving officers, without extraneous assistance, being able to obtain accurate information of the applicants for poor relief; and, thirdly, the indiscriminate and reckless profusion of Charitable Societies and private individuals. He exemplified the good effects of a combination of Poor Law and charity by the systems pursued at Elberfield, Macclesfield, Atcham, and the Metropolis. Mr. W. E. Darwin next dwelt long and minutely upon the method and work of the Charity Organisation Society, showing that its main object was to obtain a complete interchange of knowledge of the work done by each charity and by the Poor Law, and not in any way to interfere with the funds or with the method of distribution of any charity, but at first simply to obtain perfect information, and freely to give it; and, subsequently, if funds were forthcoming, to supplement its work by loans to set deserving people up, and prevent them becoming paupers, to purchase tools, &c. Mr. E. Bance, Deputy President of the Board of Guardians, considered such a Society would be of immense benefit to the Guardians, and said he thoroughly felt the necessity of such an organisation before it was possible to do away with out-door relief, which, he was of opinion, did an immense deal of harm. He objected strongly to the local Act, which was greatly the cause of the peculiar course taken by the Board of Guardians. Mr. C. C. Smith, the clerk to the Guardians, disputed Dr. Griffin's statistics, and said that the expenditure on relief had not increased, and that the proportion of paupers was really one-half what was stated by Dr. Griffin, but he approved the formation of the Society. Dr. Griffin at once replied that his figures were from the Local Government Board returns, and that in 1854 the cost was £10,933; in 1864, £16,658; and in 1874, £23,598; that Mr. Smith had only reckoned the actual money spent on the poor; that if the numbers of paupers had been reckoned by adding the number of each half-year, it did not follow that there were only half. At any rate, the Local Government Board had so reckoned them, and as all his figures had been obtained in the same way, the ratios remained the same. After some remarks by the Revs. F. Wigram, H. H. Carlisle, and J. A. Whitlock, the Rev. Basil Wilberforce said it was a layman's question, and that clergymen must relieve those they knew were undeserving, and instanced several cases in which he had done so. The Rev. A. Bradley followed on the same ground, and objected strongly to the Society interfering with the action of charity, and being desirous of throwing all the money into one common fund. The Rev. C. E. Steward and others spoke strongly in favour of the Society. Mr. W. C. Westlake said it could not be disputed that we had on the 1st of January 2,505 paupers relieved, or 1 in 20, and that in other places the average cost per head was 6s. 7d., while here it was 9s. 7½d. After Mr. Cox and Major-General Tryon had spoken in support of the proposal, Dr. Griffin moved that a Charity Organisation Society be formed for Southampton and its immediate neighbourhood, which was seconded by Mr. Le Feuvre, and carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the Mayor, who had been in the chair three hours, closed the proceedings of the Conference.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the third week of November 1875 was 35,483, and 48,973 received outdoor relief, making a total of 84,456. This was an increase of 696 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,326, 18,156, and 24,377 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 502. This was the same as the number returned for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 81 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 158.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 15, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

**THE OBJECT** of the CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY is the improvement of the condition of the poor:

1. By bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and amongst the Charities.
2. By securing thorough investigation and suitable action in all cases.
3. By granting effectual temporary assistance, as far as the funds of the Committees allow, in cases where a permanent result may be hoped for, and which are not met by existing sources.
4. By repressing mendicity.

The Society, therefore, being desirous of enlisting the sympathy of those who are endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor, would urge such of them as are willing to take part in the work to become members of the District Committees, especially of those in the poorer parts of London, and would remind them that by so doing they will be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various agencies that are intended to help them.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. C. S. Loch, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, will be happy to furnish further information.

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## NOTICES.

Any District Committee requiring an In-patient letter for the Brompton or Victoria Park Hospitals is requested to communicate with the Secretary of the Council, letters available for December having been offered.

Copies of a new edition of the Table showing times of meeting of all District Committees have been sent to the District Offices and can be supplied to members on application to the Secretary.

On and after Thursday, December 23rd, the office of the Paddington Committee will be at No. 20 Westbourne Park Terrace, Harrow Road, W. The office will be closed from the evening of Wednesday the 22nd instant until the morning of Tuesday the 28th.

The Newington Committee have resumed their weekly meetings; the next will be held on Friday the 17th instant, and after that date they will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays alternately.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

**T**HE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Dr. Anderson, *Kensington Committee*; Major Yard, J. R. Hollond, Esq., *Paddington*; Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., Major Prendergast, Major Fitz-Roy, *St. George's*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marglebone*; C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; H. Matthews, Esq., *Islington*; W. F. Lawrence, Esq., *St. Giles's and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Sir Richard Wilbraham, *Holborn*; Hon. C. W. Fremantle, *Whitechapel*; E. L. O'Malley, Esq., *Stepney*; Hon. H. R. Scott, *Mile End*; F. B. Montgomerie, Esq., W. F.

Smith, Esq., *St. Saviour's, Southwark*; F. Du Pré Thornton, Esq., *Newington*; T. Parry Woodcock, Esq., *St. Olave's*; H. Long, Esq., *Lambeth*; S. Etches, Esq., *Clapham*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; A. Annesley, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; Capt. Gardner, R.N., *Eltham*; C. A. Barry, Esq., *Sydenham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, C. B. P. Bosanquet, Esq., G. Blount, Esq., Dr. Hawksley, C. A. Miner, Esq., *Additional Members*; total, 38. C. S. Loch, Esq., C. J. Ribton-Turner, Esq., *Secretaries*.

## SCHOOL BOARD CASES.

A memorandum from Mr. Bosanquet was read, with reference to an interview with Mr. Peek. Mr. Peek had stated that his object was very generally misunderstood. His wish was not to enable children to attend school, but to make it easier for members of the School Board to obtain effectual assistance for persons whose distress was brought to their notice, if careful inquiry proved them deserving.

## QUESTIONS.

A letter was read from the Rev. A. J. Ross, inquiring if application had been made to any of the District Committees by a Mrs. Macglashen. If such was the case, he would be ready to furnish information respecting her.

Mr. Seton-Karr drew the attention of the Council to an article in the *Saturday Review*, in which reference was made to the Charity Organisation Society.

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending December 4 the receipts had been £120. 14s. 6d. for the General Fund, and £42. 2s. for the District Committee Aid Fund; and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £92. 9s. 6d. and £25. 15s. 6d. respectively—the latter sum not including an advance of £65 to be made from the General Fund.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

Grants of £35 and £30 were made to the Holborn and St. Saviour's Committees respectively.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending December 11, 1875:—*Donations*: Capt. Barker, £10; J. Clutton, Esq., £5; G. Waldie Griffith, Esq., £10; C. A. D. Halford, Esq., £10; Miss E. Holhouse, £1. 1s.; Mrs. Reiss, £50; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., £20; Lady Trevelyan, £5; A. Turnor, Esq., £10. 10s. *Annual*: Rev. G. A. Booth, £1. 1s.; J. A. Caldecott, Esq., £1. 1s.; T. D. Galpin, Esq., £1. 1s.; Rev. T. G. Headley, £1. 1s.; W. Hickman, Esq., M.B., £1. 1s.; Mrs. Lawton, £2. 2s.; George Moore, Esq. (for the City Committee), £21; J. W. R. Thompson, Esq., 10s. 6d. *District Committee Aid Fund*: Clapham Committee, £10. 10s.; Miss Jane Wilson, £10.

The following business stands for Monday, December 20:—

To consider a recommendation of the Administrative Committee:

That a grant of £37, on account, be made to the St. James's Committee, Westminster.

Mr. Alsager Hay Hill to call the attention of the Council to the relations of the Society to the Industrial Classes and their co-operation in its work, with special reference to an article by Mr. C. E. Maurice, in *Maemillan's Magazine* for December 1875, and to move:—

'That a closer bond of union should be created between the representatives of organised charity and leaders of the working-men's organisations.'



## DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, DE- CEMBER 11, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to				Class III. Assisted by					Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with	
	Not requiring relief	Undeserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans	Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.					Class total
Kensington .....	3	2	7	12	..	1	..	1	4	..	4	..	8	21	9	7	2
Fulham .....	2	1	1	4	1	..	1	2	8	..	..	1	9	15	3	2	4
Paddington .....	..	1	3	4	1	3	..	4	3	..	4	1	8	16	17	3	2
Chelsea .....	1	1	3	5	..	2	2	4	1	1	..	..	2	11	11	4	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	4	..	3	7	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	23	9	6	1
Westminster do.	4	..	6	10	1	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	2		3	..	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	1	1	2	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	2	6
St. Marylebone .....	4	4	8	16	..	7	2	9	2	1	1	1	5	30	10	12	..
Hampstead .....	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	1
North St. Pancras and																	
Highgate .....	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	9	..
South St. Pancras .....	2	4	5	11	..	3	4	7	1	..	..	..	1	19	5	8	..
Islington .....	2	2	1	5	..	7	..	7	1	..	..	..	1	13	14	3	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	2	1	3	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	6	3	10	..
Strand .....	..	..	2	2	..	4	2	6	2	..	..	..	2	10	6	8	..
Holborn .....	..	..	2	2	..	9	..	9	2	..	1	..	3	14	4	17	1
City .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	..	..	9	9	10	28	..
Shoreditch .....	..	..	3	3	..	1	..	1	4	..	..	2	6	10	..	11	..
Bethnal Green .....	2	2	3	7	1	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	12	6	2	..
Whitechapel .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	..
St. George's-in-the-East	..	2	2	..	..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	4	..
Stepney .....	1	2	6	9	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	2	..	15	15	5	2
Mile End Old Town ..	2	..	4	6	..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	10	1	7	..
Poplar .....	..	1	4	5	..	3	1	4	2	..	..	..	2	11	..	9	..
St. Saviour's .....	1	3	8	12	..	5	2	7	4	1	..	2	7	26	3	4	2
Newington .....	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	2	1	1	..	1	3	6	1	..	..
St. Olave's .....	1	2	4	7	..	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	2	11	7	2	..
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	2	5	2	9	..	3	3	6	..	..	2	2	2	23	5	4	3
South .....	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	3	6	2	2	5
Wandsworth & Putney	..	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	7	2	..	6
Battersea .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	6	10	5	1	10
Clapham .....	..	..	2	2	..	1	2	3	3	1	..	1	5	..	..	..	..
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	4	4	..	7	..	7	6	..	..	..	6	20	1	..	..
Peckham .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	4	..	3	..
Greenwich .....	1	2	4	7	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	10	4	..	15
Deptford .....	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	1	9
Woolwich .....	..	3	2	5	..	1	..	1	2	1	..	..	3	9	..	1	10
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	21
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Sydenham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	1	..	5
Total .....	33	45	98	176	6	77	28	111	71	15	11	13	110	397	175	183	130

GRANTS TO POOR DISTRICTS.—Mr. Day has furnished the following summary of the first part of the remarks made by him last week in support of his motion on the above subject:—‘Mr. Day referred to the volume of the Reports of Committees for 1874 to prove, by statistics therefrom, that his Committee, with only one officer, had done more work than two officers at Islington, and at less than half the cost, in 1874. That when it was at first proposed for Sydenham and Forest Hill (with a district in some parts over three miles in extent) to have two offices, it was overruled, and the large room of a dispensary, at the low cost of £11. 4s. per year (for rent, taxes, gas, fire, &c.), was found, with one person as Charity Officer and Collector, quite sufficient to do the work efficiently and successfully; and that the Committee sent a grant yearly towards the expenses of the Central Office. Whereas Islington had during the past three years received £200 in grants from Council, not because of its poverty, but from want of a better organisation and more thoroughly systematic collection.’

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

HAMPSTEAD.—*Annual Meeting.*—The Annual Meeting of this Committee was held at the Guardians' Offices, Hampstead, on the 4th inst., J. R. Hol-  
lond, Esq., presiding. The proceedings opened with prayer by the Rev. S. W. Barnaby, the Vicar.

The Rev. H. F. Mallet, one of the Hon. Secretaries, read the annual report, which stated that the Committee had inquired into 195 cases of residents, of whom 39 were dismissed, 79 were referred to the Poor Law, local agencies, or institutions, 8 had been placed on the labour register, and 69 had been assisted by grants, loans, employment, or letters to hospitals. During the year 22 vagrants had been relieved, as against 42 in 1873-4, 69 in 1872-3, 133 in 1871-2, and 392 in 1870-1. The undeserving poor,

it was urged, ought to be referred to the Poor Law. It was stated that 53 cases had been inquired into for other Committees, and it was most desirable that there should be a more perfect co-operation between the District Visitors and the Committee.

The Chairman, after speaking of the complete character of the report, proceeded to speak of the difficulties which the Society and its principles had had to encounter in the course of its existence. He said it was one of the most misunderstood and best abused Societies of the day. The form of abuse came from a knot of persons who, acting under the guise of charity administration, had come into antagonism with the Society. Some of the misunderstanding was *bonâ fide*, and this arose in the minds of those who, looking at the Society as a charitable one, had been struck with the fact that more was spent in machinery than in relief; or considered that its system of inquiry was very inquisitorial. Another objection, made in a well-known Review, was a very strange one. It was this: that organised charity was not charity at all. Dealing with these objections, he said in a short time there would be numberless appeals in the papers from charities and from charitable individuals. If to the numbers of those who appealed were added the charities in Fry's Handbook, with the private charities distributed, it would be found that there were sufficient funds to aid all the poor of London, and therefore, if the Charity Organisation Society had come as another charity to add to these, it would have had no *locus standi* at all. If it was said, then, that all these funds were distributed without any co-operation, that each charity made its own laws and dealt with its own cases as each liked, without reference to any other, would it not be said that there was a want of systematising—a want of care that the deserving should get what was needful, and that others should not be relieved by several charities at one time? (Hear.) His contention was that, seeing that there was before the existence of the Charity Organisation Society no such organisation or systematising of relief, if it spent the whole of its receipts in machinery, the money would be well spent and the Society would perform a very useful function. To give charity or relief was no part of its function; but in the course of its work it was found that it could perform its work better by giving a certain amount of relief, but that was not its primary function—it was not its purpose to give doles. What, in fact, the Society said was, that a man who found himself in distress must lay before the Society some plans of life—some scheme—and then the Society would see if it could not assist him in the endeavour to pull through and attain again an independent position. This giving of effectual relief led to the second objection—the investigations into character. It was not possible, he urged, to give effectual relief unless it was known what a man was and in what way he could be assisted. True charity should look at the past, so as to forecast the future, and the Society was no more inquisitorial than was the doctor who made inquiries of his patient; and the better the doctor, the farther back would he go into his patient's history, so as to form a correct diagnosis of the present disease. (Hear.) The Society made full inquiry into the past history of each case, that it might do substantial justice in the present. (Hear.) It was a serious matter for a man when he asked for relief, but it was a more serious matter when the relief was given without inquiry.

Mr. Ribton-Turner considered that there were 4,000,000 of our population who were partially dependent, and therefore it was necessary that each person should take care that nothing he did should assist a man to join this enormous dependent class. (Hear.) The speaker then dealt with the objection that organised charity was no charity, and said that the charity of impulse was on the contrary no charity, for the alms thus bestowed were not given from the heart-stirring motive which animated true charity—to help a fellow being—but merely arose from a desire to be free from importunity.

Mr. Basil Woodd Smith, in proposing the adoption of the report, said that all persons interested in the welfare of the poor ought to warmly thank the Executive Committee for their work. They consisted of ladies and gentlemen who were willing to undergo some amount of unpopularity in directing these cases to be investigated for the benefit of the poor and society at large. The work of the Society was doing a great deal of good, and would be more and more appreciated; and if it had done nothing more than clear the streets of beggars, and did nothing more than keep them clear, as it did, it had a sufficient *raison d'être*.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion, and said that those persons who kept aloof from the Society, and distributed relief without inquiry, were the cause of ‘hardness to the poor’ of which they complained. If these persons gave their aid only after full inquiry, and gave help by personal assistance, it would be found that the poor needed advice more than anything, and he trusted that the day would come when each Committee would be a centre for information to the poor; and then there would be a sympathy between all classes—the poor would be taught to help themselves, and the relief of the poor would be on a more rational footing than at present.

The motion was carried, *nem. con.*

The Rev. Dr. Sadler proposed the re-election of the officers, and said that the meeting must feel under the deepest debt of gratitude for the work which the gentlemen composing the officers had done and were doing. (Hear, hear.) To Mr. Mallet, the speaker said, he felt that all were



under the deepest obligation, and it was indeed a blessing to a neighbourhood to have in it one who was able and willing—for the love of the poor and the work—to undertake the duties which he discharged. The speaker said he was for himself almost ashamed to say a word in commendation of the Society, because he did so little as a worker; but he could bear testimony to its good results, for he was in himself a recipient of its relief—having been relieved of those visitors who formerly came to him with the full knowledge that he had not time to inquire into their statements, and who had now disappeared. He warmly supported the principles of the Society, believing that they led to due relief being given to real poverty, and on that ground could claim universal sympathy.

Mr. Lewis seconded the motion in a thoughtful speech, and Mr. Manley Hopkins supported it.

The motion was carried, and was acknowledged by Mr. Frederick Hill, J.P., and by the Rev. H. F. Mallet, who thought that the Society ought to have taken root earlier.

On the motion of the Rev. S. B. Burnaby, seconded by Mr. Millar, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the proceedings closed with his acknowledgment of the compliment.

**LEWISHAM.**—*Organisation of Parochial Charities.*—Many of the Parochial Charities have recently been reorganised, and, under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners, are now administered by a new Board, called the 'Trustees of the Lewisham Parochial Charities.' On the formation of this Board, the Lewisham Committee wrote, offering their services and the services of their agents, and expressing the hope that there would be cordial co-operation between the two bodies in their common labour of trying to bring about the improvement of the condition of the local poor.

The Board, in reply, expressed its readiness to avail itself of the Committee's organisation, and at its last meeting on the 8th inst. voted them a grant of £15. A similar grant was also made at the same time to the Sydenham Committee, whose district is included in the Lewisham Union.

#### REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Annual Reports of the Mile End and Camberwell Committees.

Annual Report of the Horsham Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity.

Annual Report of the Newcastle Society for the Organisation of Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity.

*Macmillan's Magazine* for December, containing an article on the 'Organisation of the Un-organised Classes,' by C. E. Maurice, Esq.

#### CHARITY ORGANISATION ASSOCIATION.—SCARBOROUGH.

The annual meeting of the supporters of the Scarborough Society for the Suppression of Mendicity and Organising Charitable Relief was held at the Royal Hotel on the 8th inst. In the absence of the Mayor (John Hart, Esq.) through domestic affliction, the chair was taken by the ex-Mayor, (Mr. Alderman Porrett.) There were also present—The Ven. Archdeacon Blunt, Rev. R. Bulgarnie, Rev. J. Lewitt, Hon. F. Stuart-Wortley, John Woodall, Esq., J. Phillips, Esq., Col. Harvey, W. H. Smythe, Esq., W. Rowntree, Esq., M. Hick, Esq., S. Bailey, Esq., and Mr. H. M. Cross.

The proceedings were opened by the Chairman calling upon W. H. Smythe, Esq., Hon. Sec., to read the notice convening the meeting, after which that gentleman also read the following

##### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Committee of the Scarborough Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity, in presenting their fifth annual report, have the satisfaction of being able to give a good account of its labours during the past year, especially with regard to the loan system, which has now absorbed £64 of the Society's money, and of which only £5 has as yet been lost, and that chiefly owing to deaths occurring among those who were paying back the money lent them by the Society.

In the following statement the cases are divided under several heads, that all may see at a glance how different are the people that apply to us, and, consequently, how difficult it is to deal with them effectually.

The heads are, first, the deserving cases: these are relieved by gifts of money, or goods, i.e. bread, groceries, coals, &c.; and also by loans of money, on good security, to be repaid without interest, by small instalments; and also by finding employment when possible.

##### CASES RELIEVED BY MONEY OR GOODS.

'10.—A Scarborough fisherman, married, who was unable to work through injuries received on board of his ship, relieved till club allowance due.'

##### CASES RELIEVED BY LOANS.

'83.—A widow applied for a loan to enable her to start a small business. A loan of £8 granted.'

'A blind young man, mentioned in last year's report, again assisted by a loan of £12. 7s. 6d. He is doing well, and is regularly repaying.'

Here the Committee wish to state that the sums of money given by private individuals for the relief of special cases are not brought into our report, owing to the fact that such gifts are often accompanied with a request that no mention be made of them; so that the amount put down in our accounts does not represent the whole of the money actually given away through the Society, but only the small sums that it is possible to give out of the subscribers' money, after the necessary expenses of the agent and office are paid, and those which are entailed by the duty of ridding the town of professional beggars. In fact, as the name purports, we wish especially to be the almoners of those who cannot sift for themselves the truth or falsehood of the applicant's story, and who yet will gladly relieve a real case of suffering or hardship. Before we leave this part of the subject the Committee desire to thank the friends of the Society for the gifts of money, coal, soup-tickets, and clothes, which have been carefully distributed.

##### PETITIONS.

It has been the custom during the last four years for those who have suffered some unexpected loss that would deprive them of the means of gaining their livelihood to bring their petition to the Society before appealing to their friends for help. After due inquiry into the merits of the case, the recommendation of the Committee has been in many cases granted, and the money (more readily obtained in such a case) has been deposited in the hands of our officer for the greater security of its being applied to the purpose stated in the petition, and in some cases an additional gift or loan has been granted. This, we think, is so useful a part of our work as to deserve special mention.

##### INELIGIBLE CASE.

'23.—A bricklayer, with a wife and four children, applied for assistance; but on inquiry it was found that he had regular employment, at 32s. weekly in winter and 35s. in summer, but on account of the hard weather he had been out of work 9 days.'

##### UNDESERVING CASES.

'201.—A labouring man, found with a begging petition stating that his horse had fallen dead in the street, proved to be an impostor, as he never had a horse. Sentenced to 3 months' hard labour.'

'50.—A labourer applied for assistance. Relieved till work was found for him at 15s. a week, which he refused, saying he would not work under 21s.'

'215.—J. D., a Scarborough boy, aged 13 years, who had several times been before the borough magistrates for begging and annoying people in the streets. Sent to an industrial school till he attains the age of 16 years.'

'The frequent occurrence in our books of the words drunkard, ineligible, undeserving, impostor, and false address shows the necessity of making inquiries before giving relief of any kind; and district-visitors and other charitable persons are particularly reminded that this Society undertakes, through its agent, to make the necessary inquiries in this way.'

The repression of mendicity, your Committee are happy to state, has been a most successful department, the town having been very materially cleared of professional beggars by the operations of the Society. A large portion of the expenses necessarily belong to the working machinery; this, however, may be considered as belonging expressly to the repression of mendicity, the whole of the remainder being applied to the relief and assistance of the really deserving.

In conclusion, your Committee expresses a desire that the various charities in this town will make as much use as possible of the machinery of the Society.

The office is at 18 Queen Street, where the agent (Mr. Aplin) attends daily from 3 till 5 P.M., and will gladly give all the information in his power.

**CASES BROUGHT BEFORE THE COMMITTEES IN 1875.**—(a) Relief refused to applicant as:—1. Not requiring relief, 8; 2. Ineligible, 56; 3. Undeserving, 41; 4. False address, 1.—Total 106. (b) Referred for relief to:—1. Union relieving officer, 43; 2. Private persons, 7.—Total 50. (c) Assisted by the Association with:—1. Grants, 82; 2. Loans, 17; 3. Labour, 3; 4. Institutions, 1.—Total 103. Grand total, 259.

The balance-sheet showed that during the year the sum of £15. 1s. 9½d. had been expended in relief—food, money, and labour; that £101. 7s. 8d. had been expended in the management of the Society in connection with the repression of mendicity; and the Society has, in balances and loans, £101. 3s. 4½d. in hand. Its income amounted to £217. 12s. 7½d., of which about £137 was in subscriptions, and the rest consisted of balances in hand at the commencement of the year.

The accounts from which the foregoing statement is taken were audited by Mr. Fisher.

The Chairman said he deeply regretted the circumstances under which the Mayor's absence had rendered it desirable that he should take the chair. (Hear.) He expressed his fullest approval of the Society, regarding it as a great means of assisting the police in suppressing begging,—a pursuit which in many cases led to stealing and other offences. So effectual had



been the working of the Society, that some were inclined to think that begging had been put a stop to. They could not, however, discontinue their action, and he hoped the Society's work would yet go on prosperously.

John Woodall, Esq., in moving the adoption of the report, also bore his testimony to the value of the Society. He said no one could help noticing the different state of things in the town now as compared with a few years ago, when the streets were overrun with beggars. The manifest diminution of mendicity in the town was a great comfort to the inhabitants; and it was also very satisfactory to have an institution that could be referred to with regard to doubtful cases where aid was importuned. He hoped when the Society became better known it would be more largely supported by the public. After alluding to the satisfactory working of the Society's loan department, he said he felt that the institution was doing a good work, and he had much pleasure in moving that the report and statement of accounts be adopted, printed, and circulated.

The Rev. R. Balgarnie seconded the motion, and expressed the pleasure he felt in regarding the report now presented as the most satisfactory of any they had had before them:

The motion was then unanimously adopted.

On the motion of M. Hick, Esq., seconded by the Venerable Archdeacon Blunt, a vote of thanks was passed to the Secretaries and those members of the Committee who have attended to the business of the Society.

After some conversation on matters touching the operations of the Society, the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Ex-Mayor for presiding, on the motion of the Rev. J. Lewitt, seconded by the Hon. F. Stuart-Wortley.

The Committee acknowledge, with thanks, the kindness of Mr. Townsend in gratuitously allowing the use of the room for the purposes of the annual meeting.

**A SCHOOL BOARD CASE.**—At the Lambeth Police Court, on the 2nd inst., Mr. Vockins, the Superintendent of Visitors for the Lambeth District of the School Board, asked permission to refer to the case of a man named William Bailey, who on the previous Friday was fined 2s. and 2s. costs for not sending his boy to school. The case had been reported in the newspapers, and the result had been that indiscriminate charity had been manifested and much sympathy felt for the man. He had caused inquiries to be made by the visitors, and he was now in a position to prove that neither the charity nor the sympathy was deserved by the man Bailey. He could show that the statements made by him were false. [He is reported to have stated that the child was without a mother and that he had been out of work; that he had been in the China war and bore a good character.] There were four children—one was in a reformatory school, and Bailey had been sent to prison for not contributing towards his support. Mr. Vockins wished to state that in cases where the children had no boots to go to school with they were supplied on application to the Committee through the Charity Organisation Fund. The man was a drunken, lazy fellow, and in the habit of neglecting his wife and family. Bailey had obtained 5s. from this Court last year, and he could show that he was in the habit of visiting public-houses with a son playing the concertina. Mr. Vockins made his statement from a written paper which he held in his hand. He referred to an article which he informed the magistrate had appeared in the *Standard* on Tuesday last, and he desired to contradict the statements made therein. Mr. Ellison said he had not seen the article or any other article on the subject. Quite sufficient had been undoubtedly shown to prove that he was correct when he expressed himself as not being satisfied with the statement made by the man when he was before him. From the impression made by the statement a number of persons had sent contributions to the Court, and he should reserve the money until he heard from the donors what they wished him to do with it. Mr. Vockins said he had two witnesses in attendance to confirm the statement he had made as to the drunken habits of the man Bailey, but Mr. Ellison expressed himself satisfied.—*Times*.

**EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.**—At a recent meeting of St. Saviour's Guardian Board, the Chairman said that the following matter had come under his notice. Mr. Sherwood had told him that a woman named Ellsworthy, who had been in Wandsworth Gaol nearly a hundred times, had recently, after being discharged from that gaol, come to the St. George's Workhouse; and after being there a few days, the governor of the Wandsworth Gaol had sent her, with his compliments, a packet of tea and sugar. He could not understand that kind of thing. Mr. Malthouse: Perhaps he's a relation? (Laughter). Subsequently Mr. Barrett attended before the Guardians, and stated, in answer to various questions, that on Tuesday a man called with a parcel, which he said contained tea and sugar; that it was for Betsy Ellsworthy, and had been sent with Mr. So-and-so's compliments. He distinctly intimated that it was the governor of Wandsworth Gaol who had sent it. Mr. Barrett expressed his surprise, and told the man to take the parcel back again. On the motion of Mr. Malthouse, it was decided to address a letter to the magistrate, informing him of the circumstance, and asking for some explanation. It has since transpired that 'the man' was not an officer of the prison, but an agent of the Surrey Society for the Relief of Discharged Prisoners.—*Metropolitan*.

**MISTAKEN CHARITY.**—*Ferrell v. Stringer*.—The following is the report of a case tried before Mr. Serjeant Wheeler, at the Marylebone County Court, on the 7th instant. This was a claim for 8s., value received. The defendant denied her indebtedness. From the evidence it appeared that the plaintiff lived at 16 Paul Street, Portman Market, and earned his living by sweeping a crossing in Park Road, Regent's Park. Upon his solicitations the ladies of the locality had supplied him with so many tickets for hundred-weights of coals, that his cellar was so full that he could not get any more into it. Having some more tickets for coals, which he could not store, he sold eight of them to the defendant, the value of which he now sued for.

The defendant, who produced the tickets in question, denied that plaintiff ever sold them to her. He gave them to her because he had no room to store the coals.

His Honour gave a verdict for the defendant.—*Clerkenwell News*.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the fourth week of November 1875 was 35,673, and 49,109 received outdoor relief, making a total of 84,782. This was an increase of 326 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,923, 18,477, and 23,024 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 528. This was an increase of 26 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 62 on the corresponding day of last year.

## THE COUNCIL OF THE CHARITY ORGANISATION

**SOCIETY** desire to invite the attention of those interested in the work they have in hand to their Collection of Reports of Charities and works of reference on Poor Law and Charity, which may at all times be consulted at the Central Office, free of charge, together with the Reports and Suggestions of the Society on various Social Questions.

The Secretaries are authorised to furnish particulars with regard to Charitable Societies to persons desirous of such information.

The Council will be glad to receive letters of recommendation for Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, &c., for distribution to suitable cases through the District Committees.

Contributions to the funds of the Council can be paid at the Central Office, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi; or at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59 Strand, W.C.

Draft Orders on Bankers for annual payments until further orders can be supplied to any who wish for them.

Contributions for the poorer District Committees can be paid to the District Committee Aid Fund of the Council.

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Longmans, Green, & Co., Paternoster Row, E.C.; and at the Central Office of the Society, 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 3d.

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# Charity Organisation Reporter.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY DURING THE SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

BY THE

SOCIETY FOR ORGANISING CHARITABLE RELIEF AND REPRESSING MENDICITY.

No. 159.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 22, 1875.

PRICE 1d.

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## NOTICES.

The Council will not meet on the 27th instant, and no *Reporter* will be issued next week, but it is requested that the weekly Returns of Cases may be sent in as usual.

The Administrative Committee will not meet till Thursday, the 30th instant.

The Central Office will be closed at 2 P.M. on the 24th instant, as well as on the 25th and 27th.

District Committees are requested to send in their quarterly returns of the School Board cases inquired into by them under the arrangement made with Mr. F. Peek, and to let the Administrative Committee know if they require reimbursement.

The Newington Committee will meet in future at 5 P.M. instead of 6.30 P.M. on Wednesdays and Fridays alternately.

District Committees are requested to verify the addresses of references in the Directory, before writing for inquiries to other Committees.

District Committees are informed that the following Hospital and other letters, available only till the 31st instant, may be had on application to the Secretary of the Council, viz.:—1. Walton Convalescent Home; 2. Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; 12. City of London Truss Society.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Charity Organisation Society met at 15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, on Monday, at 3 P.M.

Present: Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair); Capt. Boyce, R.N., W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., *Chelsea*; P. Ralli, Esq., M.P., Lieut.-Colonel Sanford, Major Fitz-Roy, Hon. R. C. Moreton, *St. George's*; H. Peto, Esq., F. C. Mills, Esq., *Westminster (St. James' and St. Anne's)*; Major-General Blunt, C.B., Miss Octavia Hill, *St. Marylebone*; E. Bond, Esq., C. E. Maurice, Esq., Rev. H. F. Mallet, *Hampstead*; W. F. Lawrence, Esq., Reginald Smith, Esq., *St. Giles's and Bloomsbury*; Rev. R. J. Simpson, *Strand*; Rev. H. I. Cummins *City*; Russell Barrington, Esq., *St. George's-in-the-East*; Hon. H. R. Scott, *Mile End Old Town*; R. Ellis, Esq., *Poplar*; B. R. Balfour, Esq., *St. Olave's*; Douglas Brown, Esq., *Lambeth*; T. Galabin, Esq., *Camberwell*; A. Annesley, Esq., R. V. Tidman, Esq., *Lewisham*; W. M. Wilkinson, Esq., *Vice-President*; Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., *Vice-Chairman*; Sir Charles Trevelyan, Dr. Hawksley, *Additional Members*; total, 30. C. S. Loch, Esq., *Secretary*.

A letter was read from the St. George's East Committee, stating that Mr. Russell Barrington would act as a representative of the Committee.

A letter was read from the St. Olave's Committee, stating that Mr. B. R. Balfour had been appointed Representative, *vice* Mr. Parry Woodcock, and Hon. Secretary in addition to Mr. R. Burnett.

## MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

A letter from the Middlesex Hospital, asking whether the Society would make inquiries into the cases of out-patients on their behalf, having been forwarded by the Marylebone Committee, was read and referred to the Administrative Committee.

## QUESTIONS.

General Blunt inquired whether any Member of Council could give information about 'The Charitable and Provident Society for the Aged and Infirm, Deaf and Dumb, Craven Hotel, Craven Street, Strand.'

## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Administrative Committee reported, *inter alia*, that during the week ending December 11 the receipts had been £156. 9s. 6d. for the General Fund, and £86. 11s. for the District Committee Aid Fund; and that the available balances of the two funds on that day had been £175. 19s. 2d. and £46. 2s. 6d. respectively—the latter sum not including an advance of £65 to be made from the General Fund.

On a reference from the Administrative Committee the double representation of the Sydenham Committee was authorized.

## COLLECTION IN THE CITY.

The recommendations of the Administrative Committee respecting collection in the City having been declared urgent, were, after some discussion, approved. Mr. Inkersole was appointed collector on trial for three months.

The question of an Appeal in the daily papers was taken as urgent, and discussed at length. On the motion of Captain Boyce, it was resolved that the usual 'Statement of Claims to Support' be forwarded, and that a letter further explaining the objects of the Society be sent to the journals before the Annual Meeting in March.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Council then considered the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, that a grant of £37 on account be made to the St. James' Committee, Westminster.

Mr. Peto stated that the Committee had issued several series of appeals; the donations made on the establishment of the Committee had been sufficient hitherto to meet the expenditure.

Mr. Russell Barrington said that such a committee should be self-supporting, and he urged the necessity of making a greater, and if necessary personal, effort to obtain support.

Major Fitz-Roy pointed out some of the exceptional difficulties with which the Committee had to contend.

After some further discussion the recommendation was adopted, coupled with an expression of hope, on the part of the Council, that the Committee would hereafter be self-supporting.

Mr. A. H. Hill's motion, notice of which appeared in the last *Reporter*, was postponed.

The Council then adjourned.



The following business stands for Monday, January 3:—

Mr. W. M. Wilkinson to move—

1. That whereas by the Acts 25 & 26 Vic. cap. 43 ss. 1 and 10, and 31 & 32 Vic. cap. 122, ss. 13-23 and 42, the Guardians of the Poor are empowered to provide for the maintenance, education, and training of all the indigent afflicted classes, both children and adults—namely (1) the blind; (2) deaf; (3) dumb; (4) lame children; (5) deformed children; (6) idiotic; (7) imbecile; (8) insane—by sending them to either public or charitable institutions, and paying their full cost therein; and ever since 1832, by the Act 4 & 5 Wm. IV., cap. 76, sec. 56, in the case of blind and deaf and dumb children, they may be maintained without its being considered in the nature of parochial relief to the parents.

2. And whereas Parliament has also empowered the Metropolitan Asylum Board, by the Act 30 Vic. cap. 6, s. 5, and they may be compelled by the Local Government Board, to provide, at the cost of the Metropolitan Common Poor Fund, asylums for both children and adults; (9) the sick; (10) insane; (11) infirm; (12) "and other class or classes of the poor."

3. While under the same powers the Metropolitan Asylum Board may provide (13) dispensaries; (14) proper places for the sick poor to obtain medical advice; (15) medicines and appliances; (16) surgical treatment and appliances,

4. And under the same Act managers of Metropolitan District Board Schools may build, and maintain out of the Metropolitan Common Fund, and in the country (under the Act of 1844), out of the Union Common Fund, District Schools for maintaining all poor children, including the afflicted classes.

5. And since School Boards, wherever established, must provide elementary day schools, and may remit the fees for the poor, and Guardians may pay the fees without its being deemed parochial relief for (18) all poor children, not excluding the afflicted, and may also build and keep up or pay the full cost in existing (19) industrial schools of all poor neglected children, not excluding the afflicted—

6. A committee be appointed by the Council to consider this legislation, which provides charitable assistance out of the public rates, and how far the voluntary charities dealing with the afflicted and neglected classes may avail themselves of it, and assist in carrying out the intentions of the Legislature for the benefit of these classes of the poor.

The following contributions have been received during the week ending December 18, 1875:—*Donations*: Rev. R. W. Bosanquet, £5. 5s.; Messrs. Courage & Co., £50; G. J. Eyre, Esq., £10; H. H. Gibbs, Esq., £50; Hon. H. S. Law, £2; Miss Manson, £5. *Annual*: G. W. M. Henderson, Esq., £1. 1s.; Dr. C. Murchison, £1. 1s.; N. F. Roberts, Esq., £2. 2s.; G. M. Saunders, Esq., £1. 1s.; J. Dunn Smith, Esq., £1. 1s.; Mrs. Thomas, £3. 3s. *District Committee Aid Fund*: St. George's Committee, £100; G. Morris, Esq., £10.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BLIND.

The Special Committee on the Industrial Training and Welfare of the Blind held its thirty-seventh meeting on Wednesday, December 15, at the Central Office.

There were present:—Lieut.-General Cavenagh (in the chair), Col. Fyers, Col. Mansfield Turner, Dr. Armitage, Dr. Hawksley, Rev. B. G. Johns, Messrs. D. Conolly, J. Campbell, T. Clarke, W. Harris, Alsager Hay Hill, E. C. Johnson, C. A. Miner, J. L. Shadwell, G. Martin Tait, and W. M. Wilkinson; and Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, Secretary.

The amended draft of List of Employments was brought up and approved, with alterations.

A letter was read from Mr. Harris stating that the publishers of the Rev. W. Taylor's translation of J. G. Knie's 'Management and Education of the Blind' were willing to print a new edition, at 1s. a copy, if they were guaranteed a sale of 400 copies.

It was resolved that the members of the Committee should be invited to subscribe for copies, and to request the Institutions for the Blind with which they were connected to subscribe.

The List of Employments was further considered and approved, with alterations.

The amended draft of the Report was brought up, and partly considered.

The Committee met again on Friday, the 17th inst., and settled the Report, which was ordered to be reprinted and brought up for signature at the next meeting.

The Committee then adjourned to January 26.

**METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.**—The total number of paupers in metropolitan workhouses on the last day of the first week of December 1875 was 36,192, and 50,044 received outdoor relief, making a total of 86,236. This was an increase of 1,454 on last week's returns. Compared with the corresponding week of the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, this was a decrease of 8,763, 17,743, and 22,070 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 547. This was an increase of 19 on the return for the last day of the preceding week, and a decrease of 40 on the corresponding day of last year.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURNS.

CASES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR THE WEEK END- ING SATURDAY, DE- CEMBER 18, 1875	Class I. Dismissed or unfavourably reported on as			Class II. Recommended to			Class III. Assisted by				Grand total	Reports sent out	Inquiries for other Committees	Vagrants dealt with			
	Not requiring relief	Underserving	Cases for Poor-Law or otherwise ineligible	Class total	The Guardians	Institutions or Local Agencies	Private persons	Class total	Grants	Loans					Employment	Letters for Hospitals &c.	Class total
Kensington .....	2	7	3	12	..	1	1	2	4	..	..	..	4	18	14	6	8
Fulham .....	..	4	..	4	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	2	7	4	5	6
Paddington .....	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	..	1	6	..	7	10	11	..	..
Chelsea .....	4	1	3	8	..	1	1	2	4	1	..	..	5	15	11	5	..
St. George's:—																	
St. George's Division.	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	11	9	..
Westminster do.	..	1	2	3	..	2	..	2	1	3	..	..	4	14	1	2	..
Westminster:—																	
St. James' & St. Anne's	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	5	5	17	12
St. Marylebone .....	4	6	8	18	1	6	5	12	3	1	1	1	6	36	12	20	1
Hampstead .....	1	..	..	1	..	20	..	20	..	1	..	..	1	22	24	3	2
North St. Pancras and Highgate .....	..	4	1	5	..	4	3	7	1	..	..	..	1	13	2	3	..
South St. Pancras .....	..	1	7	8	..	12	4	16	..	..	..	..	..	24	..	3	4
Islington .....	..	..	..	..	..	4	6	10	2	..	..	..	2	12	18	8	..
Hackney .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Giles' & Bloomsbury	..	..	2	2	..	3	..	3	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Strand .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	6	9	2	15	..
Holborn .....	2	..	3	5	..	6	..	6	6	..	1	..	7	18	2	13	..
City .....	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	1	3	..	..	4	7	2	22	..
Shoreditch .....	..	2	4	6	..	3	3	3	3	1	..	..	4	13	4	6	1
Bethnal Green .....	1	2	5	8	..	1	..	1	3	3	..	1	7	16	10	2	..
Whitechapel .....	..	1	3	4	..	1	3	4	..	1	..	..	1	9	4	5	..
St. George's-in-the-East	..	..	3	3	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	2	..
Stepney .....	4	2	4	10	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	13	17	3	2
Mile End Old Town ..	1	..	8	9	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	11	1	10	..
Poplar .....	..	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	13	..	..
St. Saviour's .....	2	3	4	9	..	3	2	5	2	1	..	1	4	18	14	3	..
Newington .....	..	2	3	5	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	3	9	2	..	..
St. Olave's .....	4	1	4	9	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	10	4	4	4
Lambeth:—																	
North .....	..	2	4	6	..	1	1	2	3	..	..	..	3	13	2	9	..
South .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	2	..	..
Wandsworth & Putney	..	..	4	4	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	7	4	4	7
Battersea .....	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	7	..	1	..	8	12	1	1	1
Clapham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	14
Camberwell:—																	
Grove Lane .....	..	..	3	3	..	7	..	7	2	1	..	..	3	18	1	..	1
Peckham .....	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
Greenwich .....	2	2	3	7	..	..	1	1	1	4	1	2	8	16	3	..	10
Deptford .....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	6	1	2	11
Woolwich .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lewisham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	6	6	5	..	21
Eltham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Sydenham .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	4	..	1	12
Total .....	29	47	98	174	3	84	35	122	67	26	12	12	117	413	208	205	135

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

Mr. Ribton-Turner was not present at the annual meeting at Hampstead, an account of which appeared in the last *Reporter*. The words set down to him were a quotation made from his writings by Mr. J. R. Hollond, in whose speech they should have been included.

#### HEREFORDSHIRE MENDICITY SOCIETY.

A public meeting was held in the Shirehall, Hereford, on the 4th inst. to consider the desirability of establishing a Mendicity Society for the County of Hereford, on the plan adopted in the counties of Dorset, West Sussex, and Kent.

On the motion of Mr. G. Clive, M.P., Sir Herbert Croft was voted to the chair.

The meeting was numerously attended.

Sir Herbert Croft stated that the object of the meeting was to endeavour to establish a Mendicity Society in the county—in plain English, to try to make professional begging unpopular. They did not wish to make any change with regard to the relief of the local poor. Major Clive had brought this matter in a most practical form before the county. In the first place, he moved for a return, at Quarter Sessions, as to the number of vagrants relieved during one year in the casual wards of the county. He then followed that up by moving for the appointment of a committee, and finally, after the committee met, he wrote a most able and exhaustive letter on the subject to the local papers. (Hear, hear.) He wished to draw attention to the return which was, on the motion of Major Clive, presented at Quarter Sessions. It represented that between Midsummer day, 1874, and Midsummer-day, 1875, during those twelve months, 7,500 tramps were relieved in the county of Hereford. In Shropshire, where the matter had been taken up most strongly, vagrants had been put in gaol.



Major Meysey Clive said he should like to say a few words as to the necessity of a society like this in the county of Hereford, and then to allude to the working and the details of the Society. First, as to the necessity of it. Sir Herbert Croft had mentioned that the number of vagrants returned at Quarter Sessions appeared to be 7,500 relieved in one year in the casual wards of the different unions. It was objected that that number was not a fair test of the extent of vagrancy in the county, and that the same people were included in the return over and over again, because they were relieved in different unions in the county during the twelve months. That was no doubt the case; but, as far as the ratepayers were concerned, it made no sort of difference. They had relieved for one night in the year a small army of 7,500 persons, by giving them a night's lodging and food. (Hear, hear). Major Meysey Clive expressed a hope that the Society might be beneficial to hop-pickers. The fundamental principle of the Society was to induce the public to give tickets for bread to the applicants instead of money. He asked those present to invite their friends, if possible, to use the Society's tickets. The tickets would have printed on them the name of the village or town at which relief (in bread) might be obtained, and the name of the baker who would supply the bread to the holder of the ticket, and each ticket could be exchanged for one pound of bread. The tickets would be given to any number of subscribers of from 10s. to 2s. 6d.; and persons who did not wish to subscribe 2s. 6d. could purchase sheets of 12 tickets for 1s. or 2s. a sheet; he thought 1s. for 12 tickets would be found to be sufficient. The only objection he had heard to the scheme was that the Society might be the means of encouraging a breach of the Vagrancy Act—that a tramp, if taken up for begging, would say he only wanted a bread-ticket. That objection had struck him forcibly, and he wrote to Captain Brown upon the point. Captain Brown replied that he had not found the system in practice interfering with the Vagrant Act; on the contrary, it had opened the eyes of the public, and, as a rule, when vagrants did not want food they walked off. The great point was to satisfy the public, and to get them to stop money supplies. (Hear, hear.)

The following resolutions were then passed:—

1. That a Mendicity Society be established for the county of Hereford, with a Central Committee for the whole county, and a Local Committee for each union district.
2. That the principles of the Society be the limitation of relief to necessary food only, instead of money or other alms, and that this be effected by means of tickets, which may be given to vagrants on their applying for charity—such tickets to be exchangeable at some shop in towns and villages to be fixed on by the Local Committees. Such relief not to interfere with the relief now given in the workhouses in the way of lodging and food while there.
3. That the Central Committee do consist of the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, the Mayors of Boroughs, the Chairman of Petty Sessions, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Boards of Guardians.
4. That a Local Committee do consist of three County Magistrates, three Magistrates in Boroughs, the Chairman and two Members of Local Boards or Commissioners, where they exist, and the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and three Members of each Board of Guardians, two to form a quorum.
5. That each Local Committee do send the name of their Chairman to the Hon. Secretary.
6. That the Local Committee be requested to meet on such early day as may be convenient for appointing the places where the bread-tickets may be exchanged, such places to be at a distance of five miles or thereabouts, for the distribution of the tickets, and such other business as may be requisite.
7. That the public be earnestly requested to abstain from giving money or direct relief to vagrants, and that circulars and bread-tickets be forwarded to the County and Borough Magistrates, to the Clergy of all parishes, and stated Ministers of all denominations, the Guardians of the Poor, Clerks to Justices, Clerks to Board of Guardians, and Subscribers.
8. That relief be only given by the baker once for any number of tickets presented by the same vagrant, such relief to consist of one pound of bread.
9. It is suggested that in towns where there are union-houses the tickets, before being exchanged, be endorsed by the officer who grants orders for the casual wards, so as to prevent food being obtained at the same time from the Society as well as the union. That any person living in or near the place presenting a ticket is not to be supplied with bread.
10. That the baker do write the name of the vagrant and the date on the back of the ticket. The tickets to be collected weekly by the police-constables of the district, and payment to be made once a month.
11. That sheets of tickets be printed according to form now approved of, and that the Local Committees and Honorary Secretary be requested to dispose of them to such persons as may wish to help the Society by the purchase of the tickets, at the price of 1s. per sheet of twelve tickets.
12. That the Local Committees be requested to appoint collectors to obtain subscriptions in their several districts, such subscriptions not to exceed 10s., nor to be less than 2s. 6d.
13. That the Honorary Secretary do publish a statement from time to time showing the working of the Society and the state of the funds.
14. That Meysey Clive, Esq., be requested to act as Honorary Treasurer, and Captain Telfer as Honorary Secretary.

**METHODICAL MENDICANCY.**—The *South London Press* says that a woman called a day or two ago at a house in Dante Road, Newington, and solicited relief. The proprietor of the house happened to have some tickets of the Newington Relief Society, and offered her one, telling her that she should go to the office in the Walworth Road. The woman took the ticket, turned it about, and said that it was no use going, because it was too late in the day. 'Well, then, go to-morrow,' said the giver. 'Why, sir, how can I?' returned the beggar piteously. 'I shan't be here to-morrow; I only comes round this way once a week.'

#### CHARITY ORGANISATION AT GLASGOW.

The following account of the annual general meeting of the Association for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity is taken from the *Glasgow Herald* of the 15th instant. Dr. Cameron, M.P., presided. The Very Rev. Principal Caird, Rev. Dr. Marshall Lang, Rev. Dr. Hutton, and others were present:—

The Chairman said there was in Glasgow, as in every large city, a vast amount of misery and suffering; and to relieve it numerous charities had sprung up one by one, without any scheme of intercommunication or co-operation. The consequence was, that not merely was there a great waste of useful energy, but there was an overlapping of relief and a waste of money. This waste of money held out a positive premium to the dishonest impostor, who could make a study of the deficiencies of the system and turn them to his own account, while at the same time it robbed the poor and deserving people for whom the funds had been subscribed. It was to remedy this state of things, and, if possible, to turn every farthing of the money subscribed and of the energy employed in these good works to the best purposes, that this Charity Organisation Society had been instituted. Even greater were the defects of our individual almsgiving. As a general rule, to which there was hardly an exception, it might be said that the really deserving poor never begged from strangers. If they were compelled to seek assistance, they applied to some person whom they knew. When, therefore, people allowed themselves to be moved into almsgiving by the piteous tale of some street-beggar, it was almost certain they were merely encouraging imposture and discouraging honest industry. These evils could be avoided to a great extent if, before giving, people could investigate the cases which might come before them. This they were too busy or too lazy to do, and they wanted such an institution as a Charity Organisation Society to do it for them.

The Secretary then read the report prepared by the Council, which stated the principles of the Association, and showed that during the eleven months that had elapsed since the last meeting, 822 cases of applicants for charity had been investigated, and 378 reports sent out. Of these, 472 were undeserving; many had given false addresses, or were found to be seeking relief only for the purpose of enabling them to carry on their life of dissipation. Eighty-four meetings of the Council had been held. A circular had been issued some months ago to all the ministers in town, asking information regarding the amount of relief distributed to the poor by their several congregations. The Society had been instrumental in stopping the career of a number of persons who professed to be carrying on operations of a benevolent character in some of the lower parts of the town, but were in reality only furthering their own ends, and were collecting annually upwards of £1,200. Their operations had been thoroughly investigated and exposed.

Principal Caird, in moving the adoption of the report, said the objects for which the Society existed were twofold—the organisation of charity and the suppression of mendicity. But, in one point of view, the latter object might be said to be embraced in the former, for wherever charity ceased to be indiscriminate and thoughtless—wherever people, instead of yielding to mere impulsive benevolence, gave only after careful scrutiny, under the guidance of practised wisdom and forethought—there we might be sure that, sooner or later, mendicancy would die a natural death. But though the two objects were implied in each other, he would look at them for a moment separately. As to the suppression of mendicity, they all knew that in our day fraudulent mendicancy, or begging, had assumed the dimensions of a trade or profession, so that individual sagacity had become unable to cope with it. Whether those who betook themselves to this species of knavery were in general self-taught, and took to it from a sort of instinctive genius, or whether, as a well-known novelist led us to suppose, they underwent some sort of education before they graduated as masters in the art of imposture, he did not know. But this he did know from his own sorry experience, that the plausibilities of the fraudulent beggar had become so formidable that it was almost impossible not now and again to be taken in by them. He supposed every one present had made acquaintance with the well-made-up clerical personage, seedy but respectable, generally from the North of Ireland, who had always a church or school building which was to him a more permanent source of income than if he had succeeded in completing it; or the elderly man, with the air of having seen better days, who told his story with such dignity and correctness that one felt afraid almost to insult him by offering him the half-crown which, however, he always condescended to pocket; or, as had been the case in his own experience, the country-girl, with the admirably-got-up look of rustic simplicity, who had come to town in the vain search of employment, and whose little means were now all exhausted. Happy, again, was the man here present whose heart and pocket had never been made to bleed in sympathy at the elaborately-concocted begging-letter, with its pathetic and seemingly circumstantial story of worldly losses and trials. Now what was to be considered was, that this sort of imposture had got to be too elaborate for private and individual effort to cope with it. Organised itself, it could only be met by organisation. Many had not the skill and sagacity, many more could not afford the time that would be needed very frequently to expose and detect it, and the few who had both were apt soon to grow weary and



disgusted with the task. So that one sad result of the existence of this sort of knavery was to arrest the natural action of the benevolent feelings. Now it was here that such a society as this came in to play its most useful part. It did not say to the benevolently-disposed—'Give up all private charity, and leave the needy and distressed to be provided for by the Poor-laws'; for there was a vast amount of distress which the regular State organisation could not overtake or even have any cognisance of. There were many amongst our poorer brethren, though fewer than in former days, who, when overtaken by misfortune, still retained the old and honest pride that shrank from the stigma of pauperism; there were many who, from unavoidable causes, were hovering on the verge of pauperism, and whom a little temporary aid would prevent from sinking finally into it. And in these and many other cases, private charity had a function to perform which State relief could not fulfil. Now, it was to enable them to find out and meet such cases, to discriminate the genuine from the innumerable sham appeals to sympathy, that that Society offers the aid of its well-devised machinery. Besides the repression of fraudulent mendicancy, the Society had another function, that of the organisation of charity. It proposed to help other societies, by selecting from the innumerable cases of distress with which it became conversant those which each of these societies was specially qualified and intended to meet. It proposed to enable other societies to economise their means and their exertions, by preventing them from interfering with each other's proper work, or from being imposed on by persons who contrived to get help from two or more of them at the same time. And, finally, it not only proposed to act, but it had already with signal success acted, as a check on useless or fraudulent societies—for perhaps of all kinds of imposture the pious or benevolent society imposture was the worst. The individual mendicant or begging-letter-writer was bad enough, but a deeper injury was done to the community, a deeper depth of infamy was reached, by the contrivers of such societies as were referred to at the close of the report—societies ostensibly for religious and benevolent objects, calling themselves by imposing names, and sending forth annual reports full of sanctimonious phrases and reflections, yet created and maintained simply and solely to provide an ignoble livelihood for the wretched creatures who got them up. If the Society had done nothing else than unmask and hunt down the perpetrators of this pious dodge, it would not have lived in vain. (Applause.)

Dr. Jeffrey seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

One or two other gentlemen spoke; and a vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

The following letter from Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet appeared in the *Times* of the 16th instant:—

*To the Editor of the Times.*

SIR,—I venture to ask you to allow me to offer an explanation about a personal matter, as others are concerned as well as myself.

A letter has been shown to me in which the writer, who gives an indefinite address, and apparently writes under a feigned name, states that I am resigning the Secretaryship of the Charity Organisation Society on account of dissatisfaction with the working of the Society. This is wholly false. I resign from family reasons only; and my regret at having to do so would be very great did I not know that my successor, Mr. C. S. Loch, takes to his work in the same spirit in which I have endeavoured to carry it on, and has special qualifications for the post.

I should not trouble you with this letter had it not come to my knowledge that a small number of persons, who are unfavourably known to this Society, and have good reason to dislike it, have associated themselves together to endeavour to discredit it by means of circulars and private letters.

I need hardly add that I do not refer in what I have said to persons who oppose the Society because they take a different view as to the best means of benefiting the poor, or because they misconceive its objects; the differences between the Society and the conspirators I speak of are of a much more deep-seated kind.

I am, your obedient servant,

CHARLES B. P. BOSANQUET.

15 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

#### CASE OF MANSELL.

Edward William Newman Mansell, 27, described as a clerk, of 90 Fetter Lane, City, was yesterday (December 21) charged on a warrant before Mr. Woolrych, at the Westminster Police Court, with unlawfully endeavouring to obtain from the Rev. D. A. Beaufort, M.A., of Eliot Park, Blackheath, a charitable contribution under false and fraudulent pretences; there was also a charge against him for forging a certificate of character, purporting to be given by the Rev. Chas. Lee, Vicar of Bilston, Staffordshire.

Mr. Geo. Lewis, jun., instructed by Mr. Ribton-Turner, of the Charity Organisation Society, prosecuted; the prisoner was undefended.

Upon the prisoner being searched at the station a most incongruous collection of miscellaneous articles was found; numerous answers to begging-letters, pens, pencils, tracts, a Bible and Hymn Book, several pawnbrokers' duplicates, tickets for the Royal Middlesex Music Hall, 2 checks for Vance's Varieties, and a host of little things too numerous to mention. He was wretchedly clad, and altogether a most pitiable object.

The statement on behalf of the prosecution and the letters written to and by the prisoner may be thus summarised at this late hour, as we are about to go to press. On the 27th of September last, the Rev. D. A. Beaufort, M.A., of Eliot Park, Blackheath, received by post the following letter:—

21 Great Chapel Street, Westminster, S.W., Sept. 27, 1875.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—I sincerely hope and trust you will forgive the liberty which I now take in thus addressing you; but I do so as a brother member of the English Church Union, although personally I am quite unknown to you. I was for ten years a railway clerk, but through a very severe attack of congestion of the lungs I lost my situation. I have been in the St. George's Hospital, from which I have recently been discharged, entirely without any means. I am glad to say that I am promised another situation, but the salary is only paid once a month. I am therefore anxious to gain a little help to enable me to go on for one month, and I therefore thought perhaps you would aid me, as I am entirely without friends; and being both an associate of the E.C.U., and also of the C. P. Association, I can assure that if you aided me it should be used judiciously, and with great care. Also permit me to say that it is with very great reluctance I trouble you at all. Hoping to hear from you, and to get some assistance, for which I should ever be most grateful, I am, Rev. and Dear Sir, your humble servant,

EDWARD W. N. MANSELL, E.C.U., A.I.P., C.P.A., R. of H.C.

I have neither stamps nor money; pray forgive unstamped letter.

Rev. D. A. Beaufort, M.A.

In reply to this the rev. gentleman sent a post-card as follows:—

September 30, 1875.

In reply to your note of the 27th inst., as a first step towards compliance with your petition, I must be furnished with a recommendation from the clergyman to whom you have been known.

D. A. BEAUFORT.

P.S.—I really don't understand all those capital letters which make such an imposing array after your name.

On the 5th October following this letter was received from the prisoner, enclosing recommendations from Mr. Lee:—

21 Great Chapel Street, Westminster, S.W., October 5, 1875.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—I enclose you the recommendation of my late parish priest, the Rev. Chas. Lee, of Bilston, as desired. Will you now, therefore, give me assistance; the sum of £2 would quite set me straight again.

The letters of which you spoke were English Church Union; Association for Intercessory Prayer; Railway Guild of the Holy Cross.

Trusting to hear from you, and thanking you for your kindness, I am, Rev. Sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD W. N. MANSELL, Associate English Church Union.

P.S.—The recommendation was only received this morning from Bilston.

The Vicarage, St. Leonard's Church, Bilston, Staffordshire;

October 4, 1875.

For eleven years, whilst vicar of Holy Trinity, Haverstock Hill, I knew Mr. E. W. N. Mansell as a young man in my parish of unblemished character and most sincere piety; he was always very diligent in everything he undertook, very courteous and very obliging, and in every way deserved and certainly had my highest esteem and good-will. I am given to understand that he is asking for assistance, and he most certainly deserves it, and I have done all in my power at present for him, and I sincerely wish I could do more.

With these few words I beg to give him every recommendation in my power.

CHAS. LEE, M.A.

To the Rev. D. A. Beaufort, M.A.

Vicar of Bilston, Staffordshire.

This letter was a forgery. Mr. Lee had known the prisoner at Haverstock Hill, but had not given this recommendation, and knew nothing of it till he was communicated with on the subject by the Society.

A remand was asked for, to enable the prosecution to prefer other charges against the prisoner, and he was accordingly remanded till the 29th inst. at 11 o'clock, without bail.

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